



SOCCER ACTION

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250 Spencer Street, Melbourne, ph. 60 0421

Victoria, NSW 50 cents
Other States: 60 cents

Coke to sponsor youths

Coca Cola Bottlers will sponsor the 1979 national youth championship in Melbourne from May 13 to 18.

The championship is an important part of the lead-up to the world youth titles to be held in Australia in 1981.

Therefore, the age group for the championship has been changed from under 19 to under 18. Thus it is for players born on or after May 1, 1961, for such players automatically qualify for the 1981 world titles.

Each State team in the national championship will be allowed to use three over-age players from previous youth teams, including the 1978-79 Australian under 19s.

The Paraguay or the Yugoslav under 19 team may visit Australia for practice matches on their way to Japan for the world youth titles in August.

The eight competing States for the national championship have been divided into two groups of four teams and the round-robin matches, to be played at Monash University, will start on May 14. The groups are:

GROUP A: A.C.T., South Aust., West Aust., Nth NSW.
GROUP B: NSW, Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania.

The semi-finals will be played at Olympic Park on Thursday, May 17, with the first match at 6.30 pm and the second at 8.15 pm.

The final will be played the following evening at Olympic Park at 8 pm.

National coach, Rudi Gutendorf, was delighted to learn that his innovation in that a team winning a match by four clear goals or more shall be awarded an additional point has been included in the regulations of the championship.



Statue marks 15 years of service

A statue of John Perin (pictured) was unveiled at the Olympic Sports Field last week to mark the former Socceroos' 15th season with Adelaide City.

The club commissioned one of South Australia's leading sculptors, Mick Kotlar, brother of Croatia player Bruno Kotlar, to produce the statue, which, incidentally, weighs the same as Perin himself — 12 stone.

The unveiling took place on Adelaide City's "Night of the Stars".

It is the highlight of an impressive promotional programme started by Adelaide City and its manager-coach **Rale Rasic**.

Another innovation is that each of the 21 players has his own sponsor.

This has raised \$5000 for the club.

Sydney photographer **Anton Cormack** contributed 50 color and black and white photographs of World Cup games, Adelaide City players in action and PSL photos for an attractive pictorial display in the clubrooms. There are also pictures of Adelaide City teams of the past.

A possible world tour is the lure for the new national squad which will be born at the end of April.

Socceroo coach Rudi Gutendorf said in Melbourne last week he would select 26 players for the Australian squad and that they would go into camp for a week from May 1.

The squad will comprise 50 per cent experience and 50 per cent youth, Gutendorf said. It will include five or six members of the Australian under 19 team that played in Paraguay recently.

Gutendorf and Australian Soccer Federation secretary Brian le Fevre put forward three possible tours for the Socceroos before the 1981 World Cup qualifying game. They are:

• A world tour taking in South Korea, Singapore, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Kuwait, Greece, West Germany and Spain;

• Participation in the King's Cup tournament in Thailand;

• A visit to Yugoslavia which would serve as the base for the Socceroos, who would also visit nearby Bulgaria and perhaps Rumania and Czechoslovakia.

Gutendorf said he would go to Europe in August to make firm arrangements for a tour.

Meanwhile, Gutendorf will select a coach in Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide to liaise with him on the progress of national team candidates. He stressed these would not be PSL coaches.

He will visit each State for a week, spending time with clubs, meeting coaches and watching matches.

During his week in Melbourne, he will watch two PSL games and a specially-arranged game between a PSL selection and a State League selection.

"I realise I will not be able to judge all players I see on only one performance," he said. "The players I pick will be the ones I like or have had recommended to me. There will be changes to the squad as I get to know the players better."

By
KYLE PATTERSON



Sydney City's Andrew Lederer (left) and Frank Lowy with players and the Lord Mayor of Sydney.

Lord Mayor gives blessing to 'City'

What is hoped to become a fruitful and profitable relationship between Sydney City (formerly Hakoah) and the civic and business leadership of the City of Sydney was launched last week with a reception hosted by the Lord Mayor, Alderman Nelson Meers.

In launching the famous Blue-and-Whites' new identity, **Ald Meers** reviewed Hakoah's leading role in Australian soccer over many years.

The club's trademark has always been quality, entertainment and imaginative management," the Lord Mayor said, recalling club president Frank Lowy's involvement in the creation of the Phillips Soccer League of Australia.

"I am told by officials that the club's name change opens the door to more progress in the future."

He welcomed in the name of the people of Sydney the club bearing the name of "this great city".

"The team has our fervent good wishes in its effort to live up to the reputation of the City of Sydney around this nation and the world. I am sure it looks forward to a future of enormous promise," the Lord Mayor said.

In response to **Ald Meers'** speech Sydney City president Frank Lowy denied the oft-voiced opinion that "big cities have no souls", claiming that his club has set out on a road which will prove the opposite is true.

Sydney City Soccer Club is seeking active involvement with the general community and all the citizens," he said.

The change of our name from Hakoah to Sydney City was not an easy process. It was an emotional decision to leave our long tradition behind.

However, now that the decision has been implemented, we will do our hardest to succeed," he said.

Lowy briefly outlined some of the plans the club has to achieve this aim, including the establishment of a Schools' Committee in the district, organisation of a network of coaching clinics and the inauguration of the Lord Mayor's Cup for competition between the schools of the area.

The Cup will carry \$2000 prize money.

"I can promise the people of Sydney that we will carry the city's banner high at home and in other States, and ultimately overseas," Lowy concluded.

The civic reception at Sydney Town Hall was attended by a large cross section of Sydney's civic, business community, and sporting leaders, as well as members of the media and the Sydney City first grade squad. **PETER SCOTT**

HOW TO GET THE 'ACTION'

Does your local newsagency stock "Soccer Action"?

It is available to all newsagents, so if he doesn't stock it, ask him to. We're sure he'll oblige.

If he's in doubt about where to get it, the following is a list of wholesale distributors:

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VICTORIA AND BROKEN HILL: Magdiss Pty Ltd., 250 Spencer Street, Melbourne 3000.

TASMANIA: The Mercury, 93 Macquarie Street, Hobart 7000.

QUEENSLAND: Mirror Newspapers Ltd., 367 Brunswick Street, Brisbane 4000.



Footscray's Jim Kondarios gets the better of Heidelberg's Arthur McMillan in this encounter at Olympic Park last Sunday. Picture by

State soccer on television?

Juventus secretary Rocco Di Zio has come up with an idea to put soccer back on television for the benefit of the Victorian State League.

And Melbourne's ATV-0 is interested.

His idea is to package a regular programme and buy off-peak television time to show it every second week.

He proposes that Juventus and Makedonia play their home matches as double-headers and that these matches be filmed for the TV programme.

"Limiting the home venues would cut down on costs and using Juventus and Makedonia would ensure good attendances," Di Zio said.

"I'm sure we could get sufficient advertising support to pay for the cost of the TV time.

"All the clubs would get television time, and so all of them would have greater bargaining power with potential sponsors."

Creel

TO THE EDITOR...

PETITION

SIR — We are deeply concerned with the O-10 Network's decision to terminate the "Philips Top Soccer" program. The promotion of the program was second-rate compared with that of Football. All football programs are shown at a reasonable viewing time, whereas soccer was always screened at an inconvenient time.

When the VFA's combined side played a representative team in Queensland, Channel 0 went out of their way to telecast the match. They were doing this to promote football in Queensland.

Why shouldn't the same be done for soccer? When the Australian national side plays a top team from Europe it should be given the same treatment as football.

We have started conducting a petition of signatures from viewers of the program. We believe these actions might convince the management at Channel 0 that the program wasn't the failure that they thought it was. In two days of gathering signatures, the public's response has been overwhelming and we already have approximately 750 signatures. We would appreciate any assistance from concerned soccer followers. We want to change soccer's position from "second fiddle" to top dog.

John Kalpakis and
Steve Zafirov,
Thornbury, Vic.

"SOCCER ACTION" INVITES READERS TO FORWARD THEIR OPINIONS ABOUT THE O-10 NETWORK'S AXING OF THE "PHILIPS TOP SOCCER" PROGRAMME. Opinions about other subjects are also invited. The best of them will be published.

PREJUDICE

SIR — would like to highlight a problem which I feel is of major concern, not only to myself but to all those interested in the future of Australian soccer.

We are all well aware of the blatant bias and prejudice which soccer is subjected to in this country, especially Victoria, where the more established and socially acceptable football codes dominate. The mass media pays scant respect to local soccer, while the coverage of Australian Rules reaches saturation point for six months of the year.

Because of this situation, it should be imperative that full use is made of the limited exposure soccer receives. Unfortunately, this is not happening. A small, but significant, proportion of those involved in the soccer media are doing irreparable damage. These people seem to have a permanent axe to grind, and constantly criticise the status quo, while rejecting any new initiatives.

John Kalpakis and
Steve Zafirov,
Thornbury, Vic.

REFEREES

SIR — I would like to refer to a section in "Soccer Action", March 7, '79.

The segment was headlined "Tony for Japan?" It really amazes me how our magazine can refer to Tony Boskovic as Australia's top referee.

Certainly, he is not rated by the other States as top referee, particularly South Australia and Queensland.

The second point in your article I would like to bring to the readers' attention is: Why, when Mr. Boskovic was given the trip to the World Cup in Germany in 1974 to referee, then the Ladies Tournament in Taiwan last year, as well as other numerous trips, why should he go to Japan? What's wrong with our other officials? Do they believe there is only one referee capable of carrying Australia's flag? Why aren't all the other F.I.F.A. referees given their chance? For instance, Peter Ramplay, who was named "Referee of the Year", and was very deserving of this title? He is what you call a top referee. As one reporter for another soccer magazine wrote on the game Mr. Ramplay officiated between Greece and Australia in Melbourne last year: "The refereeing of that game was equal to any World Cup standard."

I've been involved in soccer for 30 years, mainly in my homeland, but have followed Australian Soccer and refereeing standards closely and I would say, Peter Ramplay, with his superb refereeing and firm control of a game, together with his fairness, would have to be Australia's top referee. Adelaide's Don Campbell also has good refereeing standards.

I'm sure the other readers will agree it's about time the other six F.I.F.A. refs were given their chance.

Alistair McDonald,
Eastwood, NSW

SIR — I would like to say a few words about the dropping of "Philips Top Soccer" from the O-Ten Network.

Firstly, I would like to know how they could use ratings as one of their reasons for the program never had a chance to improve ratings, with a ridiculous time slot, which was never stable. One week it would start at 11 pm, the next 11.15 pm and so on. And to make matters worse, it was screened on Monday night. With most viewers having to go to work in the morning and with school-age children not being allowed to stay up so late, the program did not have much chance to improve ratings.

Also, I would like to know what the Philips League management plans to do about getting the program back on television. May I suggest, giving the program to another station which would be prepared to give soccer a fighting chance. I also feel that soccer fans should do as I have done — ring the O-Ten Network and express the feeling about the dropping of the program.

I would also hope that fans get behind the clubs by supporting them at all matches.

F. Hiti,
Somerville, Vic.
N.B.: This is one viewer the O-Ten Network has lost.



Referee Chris Bambridge adopts a traffic cop stance during the South Melbourne v Sydney Olympic PSL match at Middle Park. The smart new uniform, worn by all PSL referees, is supplied by Dunlop.

ROOS FOR ASIAN CUP SERIES?

Australia is keen to participate in an Asian version of the European Cup, planned for August.

Sixteen teams will contest the Cup series which will offer \$250,000 in prizemoney.

The promoters will allocate matches to participating countries with the biggest crowd-drawing potential.

Australian Soccer Federation secretary Brian Le Favre sees the series as possibly a part of the Socceroos' build-up for the 1981 World Cup qualifying series.

Most of the matches will be shown live on TV to the nations taking part.

LIVERPOOL WON'T TOUR AFTER ALL

European champion Liverpool will not be touring Australia this year after all but Australian soccer officials are trying to have the English glamour team in the country within the next three years.

\$350,000 star for Frankston?

Eamon Bannon, who was bought by English First Division club Chelsea for \$350,000 recently, will be in Australia in May.

He will be visiting his brothers Pat who plays for Heidelberg United, and Vince and Ged who play for Frankston City.

Eamon has permission from Chelsea to play guest games while in Australia.

It is expected that Frankston will make a bid to use him. Frankston will have Martin Peters of Norwich City here as a guest player about the same time.

Australian Soccer Federation secretary Brian Le Favre said there was "no chance" Liverpool would tour Australia this season because of the club's busy programme.

But he said tours by Aston Villa and AC Milan could take place during 1979.

"Aston Villa has shown interest in visiting Australia," he said, "although I think such a tour would be a flop. Aston Villa has no star players and hasn't been a force in English soccer for some years. The public would not support the tour."

Also, if Australia defeated Aston Villa the merits of the win would be written off because the English team is on a holiday. If Aston Villa defeated Australia, our reputation would be harmed."

Italian glamour team AC Milan is a target of the ASF but an enormous fee has been demanded by the famous club. — KYLE PATTERSON.

'Georgie' still homeless

George Cross is still without a ground, but the club remains optimistic about its future.

The Cross applied to use Selwyn Park in Albion, Chaplin Reserve in Sunshine, and the Fitzroy Cricket Ground but was knocked back each time.

Club vice-president Alf

Zahra said: "There is a ray of hope that we will have a permanent home ground next year and in the meantime we have our eyes on another ground for this season. We may have to come to a com-

promise with another club."

"To those supporters who reckon we're doing nothing about recruiting players," Zahra said, "We can say that we expect two overseas players who will be a hit with all soccer supporters."

"However, we are saying nothing until they arrive."

Brady best

LONDON, Arsenal and Irish international midfielder Liam Brady has been voted "player of the year" by his colleagues in English League Soccer.

Brady received the award at the Professional Footballers' Association annual dinner. Five players were named as joint runners-up including Oswaldo Ardiles.

The Argentine World Cup star who now plays for Tottenham Hotspur. Cyrille Regis, the French Guiana-born West Bromwich Albion striker was voted "Young Player of the Year."

Philips Soccer

HEIDELBERG UNITED

v

SOUTH MELBOURNE

(No 2 ground) Olympic Park

SUNDAY 25th MARCH 1979



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EDITOR: Laurie Schwab.

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Reactions to the TV blackout

New scheme of players' jobs would clear gloom

While a certain gloom prevails at the moment following the dropping of 'Top Soccer' by the 0-10 network, I still see an excellent future for the game here.

I am sure there will be a consolidation of the Phillips League which will be followed in a few years by a new form of professionalism.

Before I go on to speak of this new professional trend in our soccer, I believe it is the job of the ASF and the Phillips League, through its administrator, John Frank, to 'sell' the certain success of our soccer to a television station THIS YEAR and not hang about till 1980. If need be we can film and package a program ourselves and sell it to the station. This can be done. There are people around who could do it.

The new professionalism coming to Australian soccer will have players working for sponsors and soccer clubs who will give them time off to train every afternoon.

This is the next logical step forward following the upgrading of our top soccer with the introduction of the Phillips League.

For the first time in Australia's soccer history, soccer would become more important than career jobs to our players.

Players would be aware that their careers would still be safeguarded for them while they put the majority of their time and effort into soccer.

It would put us in line with nations such as Hungary, which use this restricted form of full professionalism for its top teams.

It is the nearest we will ever get to full professionalism.

We cannot hope to have the full professionalism that exists in Britain.

Neither do we need to.

Once players are freed from the grind of full-time jobs, followed sometimes by five nights a week training, they will be able to put far more drive and energy into their play than at present.

The general manager of St George BSC Les Boudacs, said he felt his club would be able to introduce the new professionalism five years from now.

If need be, St George and Sydney City could probably bring it in within a couple of years.

Sydney City has its two sponsors, City Ford and Presto, to employ players, plus

MIKE JOHNSON

the giant Westfield organisation which is owned in partnership by club president Frank Lowy. Of course, there is also the big social club.

St George has the widespread Pongrass Industries in which to place players. Club president Alec Pongrass, owns that company. Then there is the social club, the various small sponsors plus the major sponsor currently being sought by the club.

* (New promotions manager, Alan Barton had arranged a \$75,000 sponsorship deal with a major company which was scrapped when the company learned there would be no national television of the Phillips League this year.)

Sydney City and St George are well-organised clubs which will certainly be to the fore when the new professionalism arrives.

Viewers urged to boycott network

Footscray J.U.S.T. president Tony Kovac (pictured) has urged soccer supporters to boycott the 0-10 network over its axing of the 'Phillips Top Soccer' programme.

"I am very upset with the attitude of the network," he said.

"I urge all supporters of Footscray and soccer in general to protest to the network by telephoning and writing letters and by refusing to watch the stations concerned."

"It is a disgrace that the network withdrew from soccer only seven days before the start of the season and after having earlier given us assurances that its involvement with soccer was a long-term one."

Pitch sought for record bid

The Prahran college of Advanced Education (Vic), is raring to go for a world soccer record but may be thwarted because it can't find a ground.

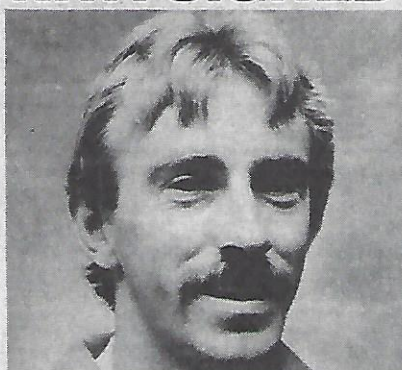
The college team wants to try to break the world record for the longest game of soccer. The record attempt is being arranged to raise money so the college soccer team can compete in Perth in the Australian inter-college sports carnival.

The college has contacted Guinness Book of Records officials to try to establish where the current record stands and the requirements of a record attempt.

The idea is still on the drawing board but the Prahran boys would be given a boost if any club could make available a ground.

Anyone who can help should contact Phil Diamantaris on 699 6736 after hours.

KIWI SIGNED



Adelaide City has signed Glen Dodds (pictured) after all, despite earlier difficulties over terms of his contract.

Dodds, 22, has been transferred from his New Zealand national league club Blackhouse Bay.

A winger or full back, he is rated by Adelaide City coach Rale Rasic as one of the fastest players in the PSL. Dodds played about 10 games for the New Zealand national team, including two against Australia in the 1977 World Cup qualifying series.

SOCCER NEEDS A KERRY PACKER

Does soccer need a Kerry Packer? That's the question prompted by the 0-10 network's withdrawal from soccer.

Packer knows the importance of television and he knows the importance of promotion. More to the point, he makes sure he has a tight grip on both areas.

He has shown what can be done with determination and with expertise.

But what is happening in soccer? Clubs are showing great progress in areas of promotion and the improvement of spectator facilities, but their effort is not necessarily being inspired from the top.

St George, for example, set its goals some years ago when president Alex Pongrass started talking of brilliant new ground facilities. They laughed at him then but today the Saints have a million-dollar stadium at the new St. George ground at Barton Park, proving that Pongrass was well ahead of his time.

South Melbourne, under its president Sam Pappasavas, has also shown great progress in social club and ground development (a new Press box has just been opened at Middle Park). It took a man like Pappasavas to inspire such progress, yet these things could have been done better many years ago, when prices were lower and attendances higher.

Adelaide City has a modern club building and ground, Canberra has the use of the incomparable Bruce Stadium, West Adelaide has bought land on which to develop facilities, and Newcastle has worked miracles in the short time since its formation.

All this progress has been initiated by sound administration. St. George has various committees steering the club in its activities, Sydney City has Johnny Warren as full-time promotions manager.

Isn't it time the League itself followed suit? We are after all, the No. 1 football code in this country, and it is inconceivable that a league management committee that includes men like Pappasavas and Charlie Caruso cannot get soccer back onto television and keep it there.

How? Money is the answer. When the first rumblings of discontent started emanating from the 0-10 network, the league should have found big advertisers willing to support the "Phillips Top Soccer" show and thus placate the network.

We have been told so often by the men at the top of soccer about the great commercial backing that our sport can attract, so why wasn't this potential tapped when it needed to be?

Obviously the network pulled out of soccer because it believed it wasn't making enough money. Knowing that television is vital to soccer's future as a big-time sport, our leaders should have acted without hesitation. As it stands now, the sport has lost its major vehicle for promotion and every club has lost its bargaining power with potential sponsors.

The VFL in Victoria and Rugby League in NSW are perfectly organised in regards to television. They dominate the video waves and are thus able to brainwash the masses about the merits of their particular product.

Soccer must do likewise.

First, we need a complete staff of promotional people, employed by the Phillips League, if not the ASF.

These people would work in marketing, promotional, advertising and sponsorship areas and they would be responsible professionals. We cannot go on using amateurs.

With a staff like that, soccer would have the ability to attract much bigger money than we are attracting now, and we would have something to lure television back to the sport.

Without finance and without financiers, we don't have a leg to stand on.

Look at the North American Soccer League. Most of its member clubs employ up to 20 full-time people on their staff to market and promote the game.

The PSL doesn't even have one full-time promotions man, so how can we expect to increase our ability to attract cash?

The promotion and marketing push should have started back in 1974, to capitalise upon Australia's qualification for the World Cup finals.

However, better late than never.

If anyone remains in any doubt, or if they need advice about how to go about it, they should ask Alex Pongrass. He's proved that he can do it.

RALE RASIC

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Newcastle KB	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	1	1	3:2	3
West Adelaide	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	2:1	3
Sydney Olympic	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	2:1	2
Sydney City	0	0	1	2	3	1	0	0	2	1	4:4	2
Sth Melbourne	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	2:2	2
Brisbane Lions	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	2:2	2
Adelaide City	0	0	1	2	4	1	0	0	3	2	5:6	2
Footscray	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	1	0	2	2:4	1
St. George	0	0	1	2	4	0	0	1	0	1	2:5	0
Marconi	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	3	1:4	0
APIA-Leichhardt	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0:3	0

PHILIPS LEAGUE TEAM OF WEEK

MARSHALL
(Ad City)

McMILLAN
(Heid)

HERMISTON
(Lions)

JOVICIC
(Foots)

LUJIC
(Foots)

SPEARITT
(Lions)

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Player of the Year award

As last year, the best player in the national league and a companion will fly to Europe with Yugoslav Airlines.

All players will receive votes out of 10 every week and the winner will be the player with the highest AVERAGE, providing he has played at least 20 games.

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THIS WEEK'S VOTES

FOOTSCRAY 2 HEIDELBERG 2, ratings by Laurie Schwab:

FOOTSCRAY: Potter 7 — Ilioski 7, Jovicic 8, Kondarios 7, Lujic 8 — Ristic 7, Picioane 7 (Rujetic 6, half time), Jovanovic 7 — Palinkas 8, Ollerton 6, Ristovski 9.

HEIDELBERG: Banovic 7 — McMillan 8, O'Reilly 7 (Inj. sub Bannon 74th) Provan 7, Tansey 7 — Rooney 8, Selmidis 6, (Taylor 70th) Campbell 8 — Bozikas 7, Cole 8, Buljevic 7.

SOUTH MELBOURNE 1 SYDNEY OLYMPIC 0, ratings by Bobby McLachlan:

SOUTH MELBOURNE: Reilly 7 — Kalafatis 6, Munro 6, Baxter 8, Turner 6 — Wright 6, Lutton 6, Christopoulos 5 — Cummings 5 (Drakeford 6, half time), Evans 8, Campbell 6. SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier 7 — Coton 6 (Palmer 83rd), Wilson 6, Bell 6, Ainslie 6 — Jamieson 5, Cross 5, (Botham 65th), Raskopoulos 8 — Laing 6, Eaton 6, McIntosh 5.

SYDNEY CITY 2 ADELAIDE CITY 3, ratings by Knut Wer-

ner:
SYDNEY CITY: Clarke 8 — Mullen 7, Thomson 7, O'Connor 7, Trenter 6 — Stevenson 6, Souness 7, Barnes 6 — Watson 7, Smith 6 (Bruce 71st), Campbell 7.
ADELAIDE CITY: Marshall 8 — Russell 7, Perin 7, Muir 7, Melta 6 (B. Nyskohus 7, 45th Min) — Muniz 6 (sent off 84th), Northcote 7, Dodds 7 — J. Nyskohus 7, Deans 9, Kent 6 (Marwe 74th).

WEST ADELAIDE 1 NEWCASTLE KB UTD 1, ratings by Meno Toutsidis:

WESTS: Crook 8, Bozanic 7, Reynolds 7, McGachey 6, Kambas 7, Jones 7, Boyle 7 (Zervas), Pillans 6, Norris 6, Honeyman 6 (McGregor), McCulloch 7.

NEWCASTLE: Dando 6, Willis 7, Curran 7, McClelland 7 (Sneddon), Summerscales 7, Drinkwater 6, Cowburn 6 (Tredinnick), Sedden 7, Roden 7, Heys 8, Harris 7.

MARCONI 0 BRISBANE LIONS 1, ratings by Tony Raciti:
BRISBANE LIONS: Lownds 8, Lawrie 7, Niven 7, Spearritt 8, Bennett 7, Hermiston 8, Hughes 7, Ogden 7 (Wilson 81st min), Wallace 7 (Lazio 86th min), Amos 7, Ontong 7. Total 80.

MARCONI: Maher 5, Degney 6, Russell 6, Lindssay 6 (Berry 60th min), Prskalo 7, Henderson 7, Byren 7, Vierl 5 (Selvage 6, 21st min), Krencevic 6, Sharne 6, Mariani 6. Total 67.

ST GEORGE 2 CANBERRA CITY 4, ratings by Alex Vesic:
ST. GEORGE: Coe 5, Harris 6, Grosse 6, Delta Picca 7, Terry 5, R. O'Shea 6, J. O'Shea 7, Cotten 5 (Gnavi 7 - 45'), Matic 7, Morgan 6, (Kay 66') O'Connor 7.

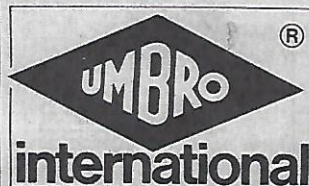
CANBERRA: Hoszowski 6, Moulis 7, Stark 8, Brown 7, Salgado 6, (Hogg 6 - 50'), Davies 7, Farrell 7, Cant 7, Byrne 8, Bailey 6, Arquero 6 (Fielding 7 - 55').

BRISBANE CITY 2 APIA 0, ratings by Bruce Waddell:
BRISBANE CITY: Wishart 6, Perry 7, Ratcliffe 7, Potter 8, Wilkinson 6 (Rathmell 6, 46th), Pimblett 7, Gaffney 8, Echeverria 7, Caldwell 8, Kalso 6 (Brusasco 80th), Low 7.
APIA: McGuire 6, Skellern 6, Rowden 6, Wilson 7, Turnbull 6, Stone 6, (Drewes 73rd), Carruthers 8, O'Donnell 7, Reed 6, Scott 6 (Butler 82nd), Vernon 8.

Leading averages:
8.5 Crook (W. Ad.)

8.0 Deans (AC), Woodhouse (APIA), Hermiston (BL), Spearritt (BL), Heyes (Newc.), Jovicic (Foots.), Jovanovic (Foots.), McMillan (H'berg), Taylor (H'berg), Jankovics (Marc.), Utjesenovic (St. G.), Clarke (SC), Zervas (WA).

7.5 Vernon (APIA), Potter (BC), Perry (BC), K. Gaffney (BC), Caldwell (BC), Amos (BL), Ontong (BL), Moulis (Can.), Stark (Can.), Cant (Can.), Davies (Can.), Byrne (Can.), Lujic (Foots.), Palinkas (Foots.), Ristovski (Foots.), Rooney (H'berg), Summerscales (Newc.), Sedden (Newc.), Prskalo (Marc.), P. O'Connor (St. G.), Della Picca (St. G.), Reilly (SM), Baxter (SM), Evans (SM), Meier (SO), Ainslie (SO), Drakeford (SC).



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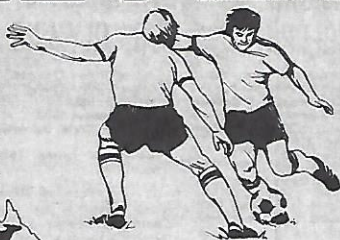
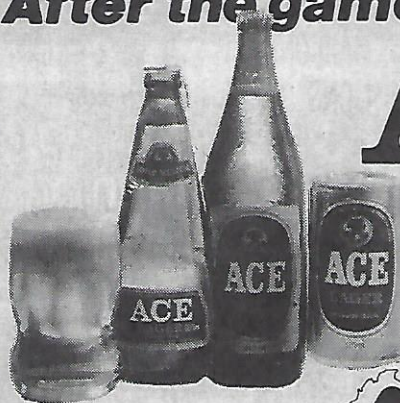
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ROBERTO VIERI

One Italian for another?

Marconi is negotiating for a big-name Italian player who would come here in June.

However, with one star due to arrive, the future of another is in doubt.

Marconi's former Bologna ace **Roberto Vieri** has been in and out of the team at a puzzling rate.

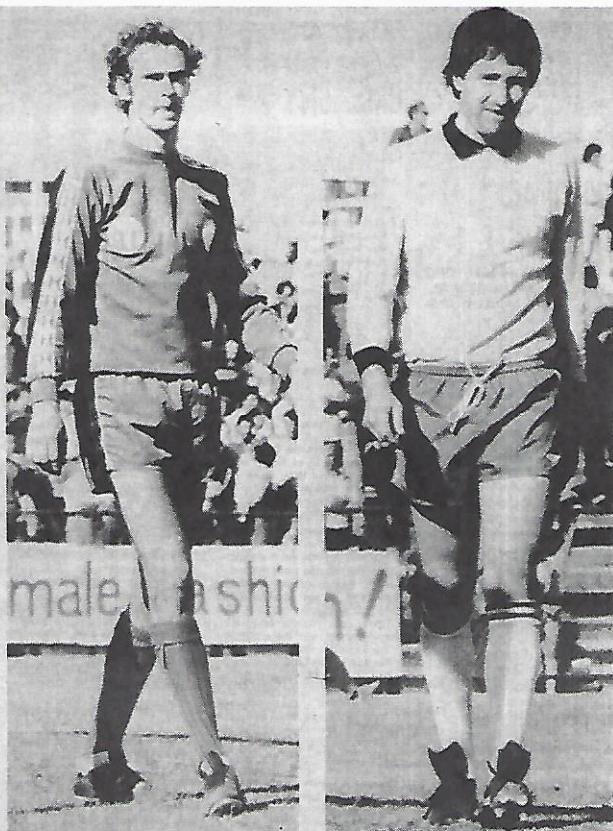
At first he was out due to injury but then coach **Les Scheinflug** blamed lack of fitness for Vieri's continued absence.

Then Vieri went back to Italy to see his sick father. He was back on the field last

Sunday against Brisbane Lions, but was replaced after only 20 minutes, again for alleged lack of fitness.

Marconi followers are upset about Vieri's absence.

They deserve to be told what's going on, for without Vieri, Marconi does not have the midfield strength required to do well enough in the Philips League. — **LAURIE SCHWAB**



Who'd want to be a goalkeeper? Nothing but worries, judging from the faces of Sydney Olympic's Gary Meier (left) and South Melbourne's Jack Reilly. Pictures by STEVE CHATZIS.

NEWCASTLE, HEIDELBERG TAKEOVER?

This week's matches:

IN SYDNEY

Sydney City v. Marconi, Wentworth Park, Sunday 3 pm.

Sydney Olympic v. West Adelaide, St George Stadium, Sunday 3pm.

IN MELBOURNE

Heidelberg Utd. v. Sth Melbourne, Olympic Park No. 2, Sunday 3 pm.

IN ADELAIDE

Adelaide City v. APIA, Olympic Sports Field, Sunday 2.30 pm.

IN NEWCASTLE

Newcastle KB Utd v Brisbane City, International Sports Centre, Sunday 2.30 pm.

IN CANBERRA

Canberra City v. Footscray, Bruce Stadium, Sunday, 2.30 pm.

IN BRISBANE

Brisbane City v. St George, Perry Park, Sunday 3 pm.

Heidelberg United and Newcastle KB United have the chance to take over Philips League leadership this weekend.

Both are on three points, a point behind joint leaders Canberra and Brisbane City.

Both leaders face difficult matches this week, with Canberra taking on Footscray J.U.S.T. at home and Brisbane City travelling to Newcastle.

If both of them lose, and if Heidelberg beats South Melbourne at Olympic Park No 2 oval, Newcastle and Heidelberg will be the new joint leaders of the league.

Which of them takes top spot will depend upon how many goals each of them scores.

There is little joy in sight for the three bottom teams.

APIA looks doomed to defeat by Adelaide City in Adelaide. St George appears to have little hope against Brisbane Lions in Brisbane and Marconi, probably without **Roberto Vieri**, is likely to struggle against Sydney City at Wentworth Park.

Sydney Olympic gets the chance to make amends for its loss to South Melbourne when it meets reigning champion West Adelaide at home. To do so, however, its strikers **Dave McIntosh** and **Clive Eaton** will have to pull up their socks, as will the midfielders **Alex Jamieson** and **Mike Cross**. — **LAURIE SCHWAB**

Now they're the City Slickers

Sydney City's new nick-name is *The Slickers*. It was selected from among thousands of entries to a competition run especially to find a popular tag for the team.

More than one entrant suggested the name, so it was decided to put them all in a barrel and draw the winner, who will get a return trip to England and tickets to the FA Cup final.

HUNGRY?

Feel like a snack on the way home from the soccer?

What better place than the French Stick sandwich bar, at 390 Little Bourke Street, Melbourne?

The sandwich bar was opened last week by Carol Cirkovic, wife of Footscray J.U.S.T. coach Cedo



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WEST AD 1
NEWCASTLE 1

Scorers: Pillans (WA) 80, Sneddon (NEWC.) 88.
Ground: Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide
Crowd: 6,127
Weather: fine
Cautions: McGachey (West)
Referee: Graham Neale 7

Philips League champions West Adelaide slumped to a 1-1 draw with tenacious Newcastle KB Utd at Hindmarsh Stadium.

It was a thoroughly unimpressive display from Wests who played without the verve and flair which carried them to the title last year.

Certainly Newcastle's bustling tactics affected West. Newcastle's close checking upset several of West's stars and near the end they looked a very frustrated team.

But Newcastle should have been killed off early.

Graham Norris blew a golden opportunity in the sixth minute after he caught the defence off guard, but from 10 metres he clipped the ball wide of the far post with Newcastle goalkeeper Phil Dando beaten.

Six minutes later Peter Boyle sent a cracking shot wide and Wests were moving into gear.

But Wests began to deteriorate from that point.

Captain Neil McGachey, a driving force last season, was vulnerable while Con Kammas did not inspire his defence by making some risky clearances.

Dave Pillans, in his first game for the year, was also below his best and was given a tough time by Newcastle's defence which harassed him at every opportunity.

Meanwhile Ken Boden and Graham Heys were a handful for Wests' defence, and Col Curran looked dangerous when overlapping.

Newcastle had their first major scoring chance in the 30th minute, but Boden kicked wide with Heys unmarked in a prime position.

Ian Sneddon followed that up with a well-struck shot, but Martyn Crook saved comfortably.

Pillans had his first clear chance in the 37th minute, but he whistled over the bar with Dando beaten again.

Heys missed the easiest chance of the half when he kicked wide in front of an open goal.

The stalemate continued after the break, with Newcastle holding a slight edge. Both defences were in control, although they occasionally faltered.

It appeared that Wests would be struggling to hang on for a crucial point with Newcastle getting more confident as the game progressed.

But just when it seemed that Wests had given up hope of scoring, Pillans headed them into the lead after 80 minutes.

Barry Reynolds and Alex Zervas, a second half substitute, combined before Zervas fired an accurate cross for Pillans to nod home.

The goal lifted Wests and a minute later Zervas fired a pile driver over the bar.

Norris headed wide after a great near post cross from Reynolds, and Wests had two points in their grasp.

But Newcastle equalised two minutes from the end when substitute John Sneddon headed, and despite Alex Zervas's one consolation goal, a common habit during the match.

It was a sloppy piece of defence from Wests and coach Tom Ford could not have been impressed.

Wests now face a tough match with Sydney Olympic on Sunday.

Wests have beaten Olympic twice in Sydney (4-0, 4-2) but will be struggling to repeat those performances.

It seems certain that Ford will include Alex Zervas in his starting line-up. Zervas was unfortunate not to have been in from the start against Newcastle.

Meanwhile Graham

BRIS. CITY 2
APIA 0

Scorers: Echeverria 22nd, Caldwell pen. 70th
Ground: Perry Park, Brisbane
Crowd: 3000
Weather: Very hot
Cautions: none
Referee: Jack Wood 5

Brisbane City maintained their most impressive start to the Philips League in three years with a 2-0 home win over Apia-Leichardt at Perry Park.

City were under pressure to prove their opening 4-2 win over Adelaide City was no fluke, and although in some trouble midway through the second half, came through with a solid performance.

The result means that Apia, tipped by many as likely contenders for the title, have yet to score in two matches.

Apia coach Jim Adams surprised by preferring Dave McGuire to goal to young international Greg Woodhouse and by leaving Terry Butler on the bench until eight minutes from the end.

Newcastle signing Rossie Ramsford did not come to Brisbane and is reported to be injured.

City's only change from the opening game was the inclusion of big Scottish leftback Billy Wilkinson for Ian Rathmell, although he only lasted for the first half in the extremely hot conditions.

Apia looked more cohesive in the first 15 minutes and rattled up four quick corners as they worried a shaky City defence.

Ken Reed shot just wide to give Kim Wishart a fright. Wishart was then forced to push a curving cross from left winger John Vernon from the jaws of the net.

City's first move started with some good work from Roberto Echeverria and Barry Kelso and ended with Larry Gaffney firing solidly into McGuire's arms.

Kevin Caldwell's aggression on the right wing and the consistent pushing forward of left winger Kevin Low provided City with a purposeful attacking patch of some 10 minutes when they threatened to score.

And the breakthrough came in the 22nd minute, following a throw in on the right, which left Kelso in possession on the backline. The Argentinean beat his man well, turned and hammered with his left foot past McGuire.

That seemed just the tonic City needed to spur them, but another Apia came back strongly and came close to grabbing a first half equaliser.

Vernon whipped a long-range shot in which Wishart nudged over and Wilkinson cleared off his line with the City defence again falling into a few seconds of turmoil.

Some more Caldwell force set up Low, who shot over the top.

With only three minutes of the first half left, Apia should have levelled when Peter Wilson headed a corner goalwards.

Midfielder Eric Caruthers, with Wishart in trouble, steered a free header over the bar.

The first 20 minutes of the second half was by far Apia's most constructive period.

In the 59th minute City had a golden opportunity to wrap the match up when Caldwell made long and bold run down the right, but watched with disappointment as Frank Pimblett gently lofted his shot straight to McGuire.

Shortly after, the match entered its most critical stage as far as the home side was concerned. The defence again was struggling and Rathmell conceded a pointless free kick just outside the box.

Brian O'Donnell chipped well, but Campbell hesitated and the hard working Caruthers headed against the bar, allowing Wishart to recover and punch the ball away.

Then in the 63rd minute, Reed was brought down as he entered the box, but Apia's claims were ignored by referee Jack Wood.

The decision sparked a demonstration from Wilson and Caruthers, and the latter was lucky to escape at least a yellow card.

But the break City were waiting for came with a Pimblett corner in the 70th minute which Ian Rowland headed, and despite Apia's objections, one of the competition's safest penalty takers - Caldwell - made no mistake.

It was the knockout punch City needed. Apia pressed forward in vain, and both sides missed a few more chances, a common habit during the match.

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FOOTSCRAY 2
HEIDELBERG 2

Scorers: Ristovski 12th, Picioane 28th, Heidelberg: Buljevic 30th, Cole pen. 44th
Ground: Olympic Park, Melbourne
Weather: mild
Crowd: about 5000
Referee: Jack Johnston (Tas.) 10
Cautions: Lucic (F).

After surrendering a two-goal lead before half-time, Footscray lost all its creativity in midfield due to the substitution of Joe Picioane.

Not only had Picioane scored Footscray's second goal, but he had also worried the Heidelberg defence with his footwork and dangerous passes.

But coach Gede Cirkovic replaced Picioane because, during a brief lapse in concentration, he had failed to play to instructions.

Footscray has a mania about Picioane. They say he holds the ball too much, tries to be too fancy, tends to lose concentration.

But he is also Footscray's most skillful and most creative player, and he is the only one of the midfielders who will score goals regularly. These qualities have won him a place in the Victorian and Australian teams.

He showed against Heidelberg that he is trying hard to correct whatever faults he has, so isn't it time the people at Footscray turned their criticism into encouragement?

The best players of the exciting Footscray - Heidelberg clash were Mendo Ristovski and Gary Cole on the opposing forward lines.

Ristovski was a constant danger because of his work-rate and total commitment, and Cole caused havoc in Footscray's defence with his speed and strength.

Another star was the referee, Jack Johnston of Tasmania. Looking in possession on the backline, as did the linesmen, Johnston could not be faulted in his first match on the mainland. He is indeed an acquisition to the Philips League.

Footscray stormed to a 2-0 lead in the first 26 minutes but paid the penalty for poor concentration in defence late in the first half, during which Jim Kondaric lost control of Cole.

Kondaric's improved dramatically after half time with the result that the second period remained scoreless.

Footscray's first goal came in the 12th minute. Echeverria played a one-two with Peter Orlerton and crossed to Joe Palinkas on the far side. A defender handled Palinkas shot at goal and referee Johnston awarded a penalty.

Yanko Banovic, playing his first game since being transferred from Essendon Croatia, blocked Ristovski's penalty shot but could not hold it, and Ristovski followed up to put it into the net.

Heidelberg could have equalised two minutes later. Jim Campbell passed wide to Cole and kept running, calling for a return ball. Cole delivered it, but Campbell was well in the clear, missed from 15 metres.

Campbell missed again from a Cole cross and Orlerton missed from a square pass from Picioane before Footscray scored its second goal.

Referee Johnston awarded an indirect free kick when Orlerton was obstructed in the penalty area. Orlerton rolled the ball short to Picioane, who rammed it low through the defensive wall into the net.

Ristovski played a brilliant diagonal through ball into the path of Palinkas, who was blocked, but managed to get a shot in at his second attempt. It tested Banovic, but he managed to get it under control.

Heidelberg's fight-back started in the 30th minutes when Branko Buljevic, left alone by Kondaric and Ristovski, headed a floating cross from Andy Bozakis into the net.

A cross by Arthur McMillan could have resulted in another goal. Footscray goalkeeper Steve Potter failed to catch the high ball, which dropped to Orlerton and Buljevic. However, Zoran Ileski slid in desperately and chopped away at the ball while lying on the ground, until help arrived.

The most blatant miss of the game came soon after when Palinkas broke clear of the defence on a through ball from Picioane but shot past the goal from the edge of the area with Banovic coming to meet him.

Then Potter had to dive at the feet of Bozakis, who had broken through with an excellent one-two with Cole.

Cole was in everything. A minute before half time he tried to cross short to Bozakis, standing unmarked in the middle, but Kondaric handled the ball and Johnston pointed to the penalty, cost

ST GEORGE 2
CANBERRA 4

Scorers: Canberra: Stark 1st, 28th, Salgado 5th, Moulis 74th, St George: O'Connor 30th, Morgan 45th
Ground: St. George Stadium
Crowd: 2250
Weather: rain
Cautions: none
Referee: Henry Witschge 7

Canberra City needed only 45 seconds to go one up, and five minutes to score its second goal a lead which was sufficient to give them the two goal advantage at the end of a very entertaining game at St George Stadium.

A long range shot by Roy Stark in the first minute appeared to be on the way to the safe hands of Martin Coe, but the St George goalies failed to hold the slippery ball and it rolled out of his hands and through his legs towards the line. Coe attempted to retrieve the ball but only managed to slide over the line and into the net with the ball 'safely' in his keeping.

With five minutes gone, Coe carried the ball too far in the area and the over alert Henry Witschge, gave Canberra an indirect free kick.

A short pass to Luis Salgado on the edge of the area, and the Canberra fullback did not waste his time in blasting a shot through the wall and away from Coe for Canberra's second goal.

St George tried to bridge the gap and attacked for the next ten minutes pinning Canberra back. In the 13th minute, Stefan Matic created the first chance for St George with a well-directed cross to Robert O'Shea. Unfortunately for the Saints, Steve Hoszowski, the visitor's keeper made a great save by pushing the ball over the bar, after a first time shot by O'Shea.

The game developed into a ding-dong struggle, with fast, end-to-end soccer keeping the crowd on its toes.

The only goal of the game came in the 27th minute, and it had a touch of class about it. A cross from Campbell was bobbing about in the penalty area when Alan Evans turned and unleashed a tremendous shot past astonished goalkeeper Gary Meier into the roof of the net - truly an effort deserving a 'Golden Goal' title.

During the interval, South Melbourne coach Dave MacLaren decided to rest Duncan Cummings, who had been suffering from the flu during the week. Keir Drakeford came on for Cummings as a front-runner.

Olympic came out as though it really meant business, with under 19 international Peter Raskeopoulos playing a prominent part in many dangerous raids.

However, these raids were continually thwarted by Frank Munro, who, although looking a bit rusty after a long lay off, added much-needed stability which had been missing from the defence during the pre-season games.

Munro's partner, Stuart Baxter, was majestic in the air, and definitely had the better of Olympic's tall striker Dave McIntosh.

South Melbourne threatened when Campbell wriggled past two opponents and brought a great save from Meier. But the ball landed back at Campbell's feet and this time he slammed it past Meier. Drakeford came on for Cummings as a front-runner.

Then followed a head-flick by Evans into the path of Wright, who slammed a shot that brought another great save from the busy Meier.

Back to the other end and Derek Laing, who was a handful for Tony Turner, beat his opponent and crossed to McIntosh who blasted over the bar.

Raskeopoulos then brought a diving save from Jack Raley and a minute later Raley tapped a header from McIntosh over the bar.

Clive Eaton got through the South Melbourne defence but two minutes later, after some good work by Matic on the right flank, Matic exchanged passes with Gnavi then sent a perfect pass to the far post for Morgan to head into the far corner.

St George almost equalised two minutes later after some good work by Matic on the right flank. Matic exchanged passes with Gnavi then sent a perfect pass to the far post for Morgan to head into the far corner.

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STH MELB. 1
SYD. OLYMPIC 0

Scorers: Evans 27th min.
Ground: Middle Park
Weather: Mild
Crowd: About 4500
Referee: Chris Bambridge (Vic.) 7
Cautions: Lutton (SM), Evans (SM).

It was a carnival atmosphere at Middle Park, with South Melbourne juniors forming a guard of honor to welcome the teams onto the field for this All-Greek derby.

The hospitality extended into the brand new Press box, where reporters were treated to all the luxuries including champagne. Our thanks to all concerned.

The South Melbourne line-up featured two changes from the previous weeks with Sammy Wright and former Wolves star Frank Munro returning in place of Mike Pye and Ken Drakeford.

The early exchanges saw a more purposeful South Melbourne than the Olympic goal. In one of the raids Duncan Cummings missed from five metres, and both George Campbell and Alan Evans were causing panic in the Olympic defence.

Gradually, however, Olympic settled down and in the 15th minute Clive Eaton sent a cross to unmarked Dave McIntosh who unbelievably headed past the post when it seemed easier to score.

The game developed into a ding-dong struggle, with fast, end-to-end soccer keeping the crowd on its toes.

The only goal of the game came in the 27th minute, and it had a touch of class about it. A cross from Campbell was bobbing about in the penalty area when Alan Evans turned and unleashed a tremendous shot past astonished goalkeeper Gary Meier into the roof of the net - truly an effort deserving a 'Golden Goal' title.

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However, these raids were continually thwarted by Frank Munro, who, although looking a bit rusty after a long lay off, added much-needed stability which had been missing from the defence during the pre-season games.

Munro's partner, Stuart Baxter, was majestic in the air, and definitely had the better of Olympic's tall striker Dave McIntosh.

South Melbourne threatened when Campbell wriggled past two opponents and brought a great save from Meier. But the ball landed back at Campbell's feet and this time he slammed it past Meier. Drakeford came on for Cummings as a front-runner.

Then followed a head-flick by Evans into the path of Wright, who slammed a shot that brought another great save from the busy Meier.

Back to the other end and Derek Laing, who was a handful for Tony Turner, beat his opponent and crossed to McIntosh who blasted over the bar.

Raskeopoulos then brought a diving save from Jack Raley and a minute later Raley tapped a header from McIntosh over the bar.

Clive Eaton got through the South Melbourne defence but two minutes later, after some good work by Matic on the right flank, Matic exchanged passes with Gnavi then sent a perfect pass to the far post for Morgan to head into the far corner.

St George almost equalised two minutes later after some good work by Matic on the right flank. Matic exchanged passes with Gnavi then sent a perfect pass to the far post for Morgan to head into the far corner.

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MARCONI 0
LIONS 1

Scorer: Wallace (Lions)
Crowd: About 1500
Ground: Marconi Stadium, Sydney
Weather: Cloudy
Referee: Richard Lorenz 7
Cautions: Prskalo (Mar), Hermiston (Lions).

Virtually nothing went right for Marconi in this game as they went down to a fifth minute goal by aggressive Lions striker Craig Wallace.

An hour before the game, the playing field was heavily saturated with a torrential downpour which looked as if it would not stop for quite a few hours.

About 15 minutes before the game the rain stopped, but the damage had been done.

The fans shared the same opinion that the heavy downpour would continue as only about 1500 spectators saw the match. Marconi suffered their second loss in a row, as well as about \$12,000 in gate receipts.

To top it off, brilliant young striker Mark Jankovics was declared unavailable with a hamstring injury.

But his absence was slightly offset with the first appearance of Roberto Vieri this season. He returned from Italy only three days before the game.

Again Marconi were hampered when Vieri was forced to leave the field after 20 minutes with a pulled leg muscle.

Up until then, even allowing for Lions' goal, Marconi showed glimpses of the form that until the closing stages of last season had them feared by most of their opponents.

Vieri was involving himself in the game a little more than usual, playing superbly on and off the ball.

His accurate passes were giving Peter Sharpe, Bertie Mariani and Eddie Krncevic plenty to do.

But as soon as Vieri left the field, Marconi fell in a heap.

Vieri was replaced by Stuart Selvaige, giving Marconi a midfield containing Ken Lindsay and Soccerro Gary Byrne.

Lindsay, who played in the State League with Apia last season, is simply far too slow to play in the national league.

Byrne was badly out of touch, and Selvaige, although a tireless worker, lacks the class to stamp any sort of authority on a game.

This is where Marconi fell down against Lions, and where they will be badly let down in future games unless they reinforce their squad with a quality midfielder.

Player-coach Eddie Spierrett, Steve Amos and Alan Hughes dominated proceedings in midfield - especially after the departure of Vieri.

Marconi's front runners, Sharpe, Krncevic and Mariani were disappointing, as they failed to make an impression on Lions' well-marshalled centre-back pair of Jim Hermiston and Col Bennett.

Sharpe in particular failed all afternoon to penetrate a single Lions defender - although to be fair to the youngster he did receive a few heavy charges from Hermiston.

Hermiston's tackling of Sharpe on the whole was fair, but on three occasions he hit Sharpe with tackles which were crude to say the least.

Lions winning goal resulted from a Hermiston cross on the right which was spectacularly headed home by Wallace.

In the end, Lions more than deserved the two points as

SYDNEY C. 2
ADELAIDE C. 3

Scorers: Adelaide City: Deans 47th, 57th, & 68th.
Sydney City: Souness 4th, Barnes 44th.
Ground: Wentworth Park.
Weather: Heavy rain.
Crowd: 3498
Referee: Davies 9
Cautions: Souness (SC), Parin (AC).
Sent off: Muniz (AC) 85th.

Sydney City's marine-like emblem couldn't have been more appropriate in the heavy rain that marred the launch of the club's new look at Wentworth Park.

However, the crowd of 3498 which included more than 1200 children and 150 VIPs, was encouraging considering the conditions.

Had it not been for the rain, the crowd probably would have been about 7000.

Sydney City drew some consolation from the fact that only 1000 people went to see Muhammad Ali at the Sydney Sports Ground.

The rain washed away many of the promotional gimmicks Sydney City had planned for the game. The skydivers, for example, were not permitted to jump because of the rain and low cloud and the pigeons couldn't be let off.

However, the disco went ahead as planned, as did some of the other promotions.

Even though Sydney City went to a 2-0 half-time lead with goals by Ian Souness in the fourth minute, and Murray Barnes in the 44th, the lead was not deserved, as Adelaide City played better football and looked more composed.

Ralee's boys had some good scoring chances, with Chris Kent missing an open goal from five metres in the 15th minute and John Nyakohue being foiled by goalkeeper Todd Clarke's courageous dive in the 29th minute.

Despite trailing by two goals, Adelaide did not lose its composure. The South Australians were faster to the ball and better as a team

By
KYLE
PATTERSON

Heidelberg United's midfield ace Ken Taylor describes himself as a 'jack of all trades,' but he's not making reference to the many different jobs he does on the field.

In fact, with a bit of tongue-in-cheek Scottish humor, he's making jokes about himself. Taylor's been a permanent fixture in the Heidelberg side since coming to this country, but off the field he hasn't been as successful at holding his place.

Taylor's had no less than five different jobs (well, five that he can remember) in about 25 months, which is a great source of amusement to him.

Once I left work in the afternoon to go to the Hilton Hotel," said Ken. "Bobby Lennox of Celtic was in town with Bobby Charlton's All-stars and I was going to see him. We're old friends, but he wasn't at the Hilton when I arrived. I rolled up at work the next day and was told I was sacked."

That story still gives Ken a laugh.

Another time I took a job with an alarms company," he said. "I didn't know much about alarms, so they had me crawling under houses and schools dragging wires. It was murder and my back never stopped aching."

Taylor's job experiences include working in a menswear store, an engineering factory, a shoe factory, an alarms factory and at present in a despatch department in Port Melbourne.

Taylor may take a light-hearted approach to his employment but when it comes to soccer, the smile disappears and the tone is serious.

"It's a dog-eat-dog situation for players," he said. "I look after myself, and make sure I hold my place. If someone else is dropped, even if he's one of my mates, it can't worry me. Everyone wants a place in the team, but some have to miss out."

Kenny's thoughts are particularly relevant now that Heidelberg has five players battling for three places in midfield. They are: Jimmy Rooney, Pat Bannon, Jim Campbell, Theo Selamidis and Taylor.

Taylor was born on March 17, 1959.

He left school at 15 and joined Ipswich Town (England) as an apprentice in 1972 after being spotted in a youth selection game.

Signing for an English First Division club is the dream of so many schoolboys in Britain. The starry-eyed Taylor ventured south with George Burley, who had been signed by Ipswich from the same youth selection game.

Burley is now established in the Ipswich first team as a full back. He played in the 1978 FA Cup final against Arsenal.

Being with Ipswich was a great experience," said Taylor. Bobby Robson (manager) and Cyril Lee (head coach) had a big influence on me."

Taylor spent three years at Portman Road, during which time he was part of an Ipswich Town FA Youth Cup-winning team.

Taylor remembers the final well.

"We played Bristol City in the final," he said, "which was a two-legged affair."

The first game was at Portman Road and there was a crowd of about 15,000. Ipswich turned it on, and we won 3-0."

The second leg was at Bristol's Ashton Gate ground. An astute Ashton fan by Ipswich silenced the 10,000 crowd, which was hoping for a comeback by the home team.

Ipswich cruised through the game but an 89th minute goal from Bristol was to prove costly.

"The game was never in doubt after we scored the early goal," said Ken, "but because Bristol equalised we missed out on our win bonus."

Ipswich took off the Cup on a 4-1 aggregate score.

The Youth Cup triumph came during Taylor's second year with Ipswich. Unfortunately for him, the success brought an undesired result.

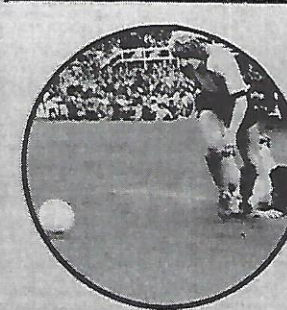
"Ipswich was just starting its youth policy," he said, "and they signed seven of the team as professionals. There just wasn't enough room for so many young players, and I was given a free transfer at the end of the next season."

However, Taylor bears no grudge against Ipswich.

"I had a great time with the club," he said, "and still know quite a few of the lads. I was going to drop in and see Kevin Beattie, Mick Mills and George when I was in Britain at Christmas but I didn't have time."

Taylor's move to join the English club as an apprentice has had long-term effects. Being a soccer-mad youngster, Taylor never thought of getting a trade after leaving school.

"I'd be much better off with a trade," he said, "if I had the time."



● Ken Taylor — this is your game, as seen by our photographer SAM BELFONTE. Taylor's opponents are, from top left to right: Alan Hughes (Brisbane Lions), Ray Richards (Marconi, now APLA), Margaritis Hagegmanouli (Sth Melb), Ian Souness (Sydney City), an unidentified Sydney Olympic player, Richie Williams (Marconi), and Peter Stone (Western Suburbs, now APLA).

Ken Taylor: some day soon we'll score a heap of goals

at Heidelberg, like Pat Bannon, Arthur McMillan and Jim O'Reilly are self-employed. They have more control over their hours and can finish early for training.

After leaving Ipswich, Taylor was picked up by Scunthorpe of the Fourth Division. His time there was quite comical.

"Some of the things that went on were unbelievable," said Ken. He remembered the time Scunthorpe was matched against mighty Manchester City in the League Cup at Maine Road.

"City hammered us 5-0," laughs Ken, "then after the game the manager, the chairman and half the players disappeared. About five of us went back to this plush hotel where the club had booked rooms, with the physio in charge."

"Later we boarded the bus to take us back to Scunthorpe. It was a joke; half a dozen people on a big bus."

During the season, a change of manager meant the end of Ken Taylor as a Scunthorpe player. He played six first team games in all.

"At the end of the season, 13 players were given free transfers at Scunthorpe," he added.

Taylor headed back home to Scotland. He had trials with professional club Kilmarnock, but opted to play in the junior leagues with Winton Rovers.

"There was a deadline for players wanting to be re-instated as juniors," he said. "I decided to play junior because I wanted to make sure I could play. There was no guarantee a pro club would

be playing for Winton that Taylor took the first steps towards coming to Australia.

"Jim Adam approached me after one game, and offered me the chance to go to Australia," he says.

Taylor met defender Bobby Provan on the plane during the flight to Australia. Provan too had been recruited by Adam for Heidelberg's first season in the national league.

"I was quite impressed with the set-up," said Ken. "Apart from soccer, it was a good move to make. The standard of living here is higher, and I was making good money."

"Before I left for Australia, I was a postman. My wage was about \$80 a week, and the money from playing in the junior league was next to nothing."

"In Australia, from soccer I'm making money that only Premier League stars get in Scotland. Then I've had other jobs to add to my soccer earnings."

Heidelberg's first season was highly successful. The team finished in third position, despite a 1-8 drubbing by Marconi.

Taylor's only comment about the game was: "Some day soon we are going to have a game when we score a heap of goals. Marconi scored nearly every time they attacked during that game and with similar luck, we could do the same."

Last season, Heidelberg had another game which was nearly as shattering as the Marconi episode.

that had we beaten West Adelaide in Adelaide we would have won the league," said Taylor. "But we went down 2-3 and after that we weren't the same. We didn't click but victory in that game and we would have burned."

This season, Taylor hopes Heidelberg becomes the first Melbourne club to win a PSL honor.

John Margaritis, the Heidelberg supremo, has changed Taylor's style of play. Ken said he used to attack a lot more before coming under Margaritis, who gave him a deep-lying midfield role.

"We play a counter-attack game," said Ken, "and I think it suits the team better than any other style. We have Gary Cole, who's tremendously fast on the break, and Branko Buljevic, who's deadly when given room. A team has to play to its strengths."

On his own role, Taylor hopes to become a more attacking player this season.

"I've got pretty good stamina," he said, "and if I attack, I can get back easily. There are times when I must go forward. If there's a space up front, I will go through, and I hope to be more involved in the forward line this season."

Taylor, whose wife Barbara presented him with their first child during his holiday in Scotland, has already started grooming his five-month old son for big-time soccer.

"I bought him a pair of boots," said Kenny proudly. "They were the first things I got for him."

Ken has several years of breathing space until his son is old enough to watch soccer seriously. However, Taylor doesn't need his family pointing out mistakes he's made. He confesses to being his own biggest critic.

"In 1977 I missed an open goal against Mooroolbark," he said. "That night I lay awake for hours thinking about it. I just couldn't stop thinking about the miss."

One game that didn't bring much satisfaction to Taylor was Heidelberg's clash with St George last season. The Sydney club won 4-1.

"Ralph Cortes gave us the run-around," remembers Ken. "He had too much experience for us. He may be balding but really he's quite young, and near his peak."

"I've scored penalties," he said, "but my winner against South Melbourne in the Phillips Cup was the first outfield goal I've netted. It was a great feeling to score the winning goal in that game."

But later in the season, Taylor had the satisfaction of scoring his first 'goal' in Australia, and it came against

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SLAVIA GETS THE KISS OF DEATH

I'm tipping Slavia to win the Ampol Cup final at Olympic Park on Saturday night, which probably means Green Gully Ajax will bolt home!

My predictions are the kiss of death, especially after last week's effort when I incorrectly chose Croydon City and Hakoah to win through to the final.

Both these teams lost. Hakoah didn't produce what it's capable of, and Croydon was soundly thrashed. Actually it was more like destroyed.

The Slavia camp was probably hoping I'd tip Green Gully, and give Bill Vojtek and his boys the kiss of death. But after Slavia played brilliantly against Croydon, there's no doubt in my mind the Slavia boys will win.

Then again, I was pretty sure Hakoah and Croydon would win last week...

By KYLE PATTERSON

The striking duo of Jamie Paton and Steve Aldridge is a well-oiled, slick combination. Steve makes the goals and Jamie takes them.

The duo's right-hand man is winger Jim Williams. He made two goals against Croydon and was brilliant on the ball. If all three players maintain their form of the semi-final, the Green Gully back four is in for a hard time.

But the likes of John Cain and John Patten have sent big names scurrying for cover in the past. Patten blunted ace winger Tommy Cumming when Ajax played Essendon Croatia and Cain, aided by big Mick Klarin, rubbed out State striker Carl Gilder in the same game.

This is where the game will be won or lost. Slavia will win if its strikers run free as they did against Croydon, and Ajax will be well on the

way to victory if it can smash Slavia's forward line.

Of course Ajax has Steve Carr on the forward line. There's no doubt he's a lethal forward and Slavia's Glenn Westley must watch him closely.

For both coaches, the result carries tremendous importance. Slavia's Harry Chalkitis is in his second season and Bill Vojtek his first as a State league coach. The Ampol Cup would be their first major victory.

And for the enthusiastic band of Green Gully Ajax supporters who have had to suffer while the club established itself in the State League, victory in the final will make it all worthwhile.

The programme for the Ampol Cup final is: 6.45 p.m. under 12 lightning premiership: Sunshine Heights v Fawkner 7.15 p.m. Ampol Cup Junior final Nunawading City v Moreland 8.30 Ampol Cup final Prahran Slavia v Green Gully Ajax.

Strikers knock out Croydon

CROYDON 1
SLAVIA 5

Scores: Paton (8) 9th, 71st & 72nd, Aldridge (8) 24th, Train (8) 69th, Tuft (8) own goal 47th.

Ground: Olympic Park.
Crowd: 1200 (double header)

Weather: pleasant
Referee: Joe Slatts 7

Cautions: Sinclair (C), Tront (C), Brindle (S)

SLAVIA: McPherson 7, Thompson 8, Yzendoorn 8, Westley 8, Pye 7, Brindle 7, Tuft 7 (Whitely 6, 51st min), Train 9, Aldridge 9, Paton 9, Williams 9 injured (Monaghan 75th min). Total: averaging out subs rating 87.6.

CROYDON CITY: Edwards 5, Spink 4, McCombe 4, Pongho 5, Sinclair 4 (Holson 80th min), C. Kelly 5 (Priestley 4, 39th min), Lowrey 5, Tront 6, Smith 6, Wylie 4, Hamilton 4. Total: averaging out subs rating 63.8.

There's no better way to silence critics than producing the goods on the field. Several Slavia players were less than happy with the Press coverage the club was receiving, so they sent out a message in the form of a 5-1 thrashing of Ampol Cup favorite Croydon City.

This writer came in for some stick from the Slavia boys after their magnificent win. And fair enough too. I tipped Croydon to win and backed up that confidence by placing a bet with Slavia's assistant coach Colin Hasler.

Easy money, I thought, but the Croydon steam-train didn't come home full bore as I had expected. In fact, the eastern suburbs team hardly moved.

But back to Slavia, which deserves high praise for a first-class performance. All the players did extremely well, but I must single out four.

They are Steve Aldridge, Jim Paton, Jim Williams and Jim Train.

Slavia's five goals were scored and made by these four players who gave inspired performances.

Jim Paton scored a hat trick, his third in a fortnight. Last Wednesday night he scored three for the Victorian team against the State under 19 team and the Wednesday before that, three against Albion Rovers in a 5-1 victory.



JIM WILLIAMS

In between came a goal which gave Slavia a 1-0 victory over Green Gully, the team it faces in the Ampol Cup final on Saturday night.

Paton's record of 10 goals in four games is evidence enough of the striker's goalscoring prowess.

Alan Pongho and Steve McCombe
Paton ran rings around Alan Pongho and Steve McCombe.

Once given a yard, Paton could turn and be away before his marker could react.

The former Queen's Park (Scotland) forward went past McCombe at will. He beat him on the line with a foot of space to work in, and twisted him inside out with the cheeky flicks on that he runs onto himself.

Paton's first goal was a cool piece of finishing but his second and third could be put down to being in the right place at the right time.

Both James Croydon goalkeeper Mick Edwards spilled the ball and Paton was in like a flash to tap home.

Slavia coach Harry Chalkitis calls striker Steve Aldridge the unsung hero of the team. It was Aldridge who never stopped pressuring the Croydon defence, and created space and time for fellow players by doing so.

Jim Williams gave an immaculate display of close control and trickery. He twisted full back Jim Spink inside out with little effort with dribbling skills that the crowds love to see.

Williams made two goals for Paton and created a lot of havoc. What more can a winger do? He skinned his full back on numerous occasions, and used the ball intelligently.

Jim Train was incredible. He seemed to be streaming forward for all the game, running full bore, yet having something to give still.

His goal was justice, for he was the most determined Slavia player in a team of absolute winners on the night.

With Croydon's midfield unable to build up moves or hold possession long enough for a pattern of play to form, Slavia had effectively smashed Croydon.

What's more, Croydon's defence was made to look bad by the way it distributed the ball. McCombe and Mike Sinclair in particular gave midfielders and forwards no chance by ballooning most passes.

Once again the question was raised as to the value of Jim Wylie and Roy Hamilton. With-out good service from Pat Lowrey or Joe Tront, the two strikers are lost.

Paton and Aldridge's style of playing close together in the middle caused confusion in the Croydon defence. With McCombe and Alan Pongho having to mark opponents, there was no sweeper in defence, no depth.

KYLE PATTERSON



Lou Denys storms out to tackle Stewart Blair of I Mick Klarin, Branko Bozinovski and Peter Donaldson

Denys a mena

GG-AJAX 1
HA KOAH 0

Scores: Perkin 39th.

Ground: Olympic Park.

Weather: Warm.

Crowd: About 1200.

Referee: Fokianos 8.

Rating:

AJAX: Denys 9.5, Donaldson 6, Cain 8, Klarin 6, Patten 8 - Vojtek 9, Vassallo 6.5 (injured, sub. Crilly 75th), McCarthy 8 - Segi 6, Carr 7, Perkins 8. Total: 82.

HA KOAH: Whiteside 4 - Daperis 6, (Baker 67th), Gadsby 9, Dosen 8, Rakovalis 6 - Blair 7, Rigby 9, rdanou 8 - Nagy 7.

French 6, Bozinovski 6 (Gibson 60th). Total: 76.

Goalkeeper Lou Denys recovered from a period of mediocre form to lead Green Gully Ajax into the Ampol Cup final.

It was due mainly to the brilliant saves of Denys that Ajax hung onto its 1-0 lead over Hakoah until the end of their semi-final.

Denys, who joined Ajax from St. Albans in 1977, made three uncanny saves. He came out to tackle Stewart Blair as Hakoah broke through just after half time and he blocked two



Previous Ampol Cup winners:

- 1955 — J.U.S.T.
- 1956 — J.U.S.T.
- 1957 — J.U.S.T.
- 1958 — George Cross
- 1959 — Juventus
- 1960 — J.U.S.T.
- 1961 — George Cross
- 1962 — Wilhelmina
- 1963 — Polonia
- 1964 — Polonia
- 1965 — George Cross
- 1966 — J.U.S.T.
- 1967 — Slavia
- 1968 — Croatia
- 1969 — St. Melb Hellas
- 1970 — St. Melb Hellas
- 1971 — Croatia
- 1972 — Croatia
- 1973 — Melbourne
- 1974 — George Cross
- 1975 — Foots. J.U.S.T.
- 1976 — St. Melb Hellas
- 1977 — Essendon Croatia
- 1978 — Essendon Croatia

Ampol is proud to present the 25th Ampol Cup final at Olympic Park on Saturday night: GREEN GULLY AJAX v. PRAHRAN SLAVIA

Kick-off, 8.30 pm.

preceded at 7.15 pm by the Junior Ampol Cup final: NUNAWADING CITY v. MORELAND



1963: Lions goalkeeper Dieter Voigt, who later played for Croatia and Juventus, gathers the ball from the Hellas shot.



1964: J.U.S.T. goalkeeper Marko Fudo catches in the rain and slush, with team mate Billy Rice on the ground.



1964: Keuken (right) of Wilhelmina robs Polonia's Kaz Kowalec of the ball.



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oah. Other players, from left: Willie Vassallo, Pictures by SAM BELFONTE.

to Hakoah

powerful shots by Graham French at point-blank range. Ironically, it was a mistake by Hakoah's goalkeeper Bill Whiteside, that gave Ajax its match-winning goal in the 39th minute.

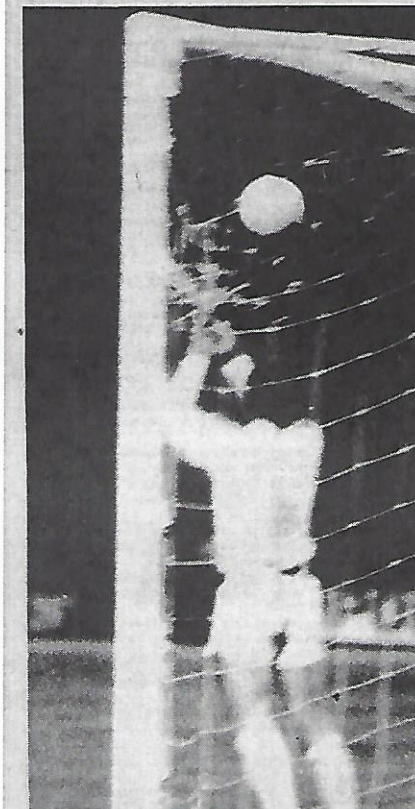
David Perkin hit the ball from 30 metres and Whiteside was much too casual as he came out to catch what he thought would be an easy ball. Instead of catching it, he let it bounce off his hands, over his head, and into the net.

Ajax defended that lead grimly and succeeded, due to brilliance of Denys, but Hakoah had most of the play due to Dave Rigby's dominance in midfield.

Ajax would have saved itself a lot of headaches had someone picked up Rigby and marked him when it was obvious that he was doing more damage than anyone else.

But Ajax also had good midfielders in Billy Vojtek and Ian McCarthy, and a hard-working winger in Perkin, and so the Hakoah defence had a few headaches as well.

However, full marks to to



Goalkeeper Bill Whiteside makes the miss



Billy Johnson



Jim Spink



John Cain



Nick Lowe



Steve Beech

THREE CROYDON MEN IN AMPOL ALL-STARS

By KYLE PATTERSON

Heaven help the opponents if "Soccer Action's" All-star Victorian team sets foot on a playing field!

We've selected 11 in-form players who were outstanding in the Victorian Ampol Cup preliminary rounds, and who had the highest average ratings for their individual positions.

As you can see, it's a formidable combination, one which would take a lot of beating. Remember, these are the players who are playing well at the moment.

BILL JOHNSON
Position: goalkeeper
Club: Albion Rovers
Previous club: Sunshine City
Ratings:
8 v Green Gully Ajax 1-2 aet
8 v Frankston City 1-4
9 v Essendon Croatia 0-2
8 v George Cross 3-1
5.5 v Prahran Slavia 1-5
Average: 7.5

The experienced Johnson has been given a new lease of life since his transfer to Albion Rovers. Although on the wrong side of 30, Johnson has been excellent in goal this season.

Johnson missed 1978 after a dispute with his former club Sunshine City but Albion, after losing Jeff Oler, who transferred to Heidelberg Utd, and Jim Green, who has only just recovered from a broken leg, needed a top goalkeeper.

Johnson has plenty to do in five Ampol Cup games. Fourteen goals were hit past him but this gives a false impression of the form he has been showing.

Apart from a five-goal hammering from Slavia, Johnson has made excellent saves in every game. On ground shots he is almost unbeatable. Sometimes using feet to block shots, Johnson can't be faulted for his work in this department.

His lack of height hinders him on crosses but that's not to say he can't cope with central stuff.

Besides, the centre backs in front of him — Steve Blair and Steven Blair — are both tall and cut out a large percentage of the high balls.

Johnson may not have the catlike reflexes of Yakko Banovic (ex-Essendon Croatia, now Heidelberg Utd) or the spectacular style of Peter Laumets (ex-Preston Macedonia, now South Melbourne), but he is a reliable goalkeeper.

Albion's chances of survival in the State League have improved greatly with the arrival of Johnson.

JIMMY SPINK
Position: full back
Club: Croydon City
Previous club: Forfar Athletic (Scotland)
Ratings:
7 v Altona City 3-1
7 v Juventus 2-1
7 v Preston Macedonia 0-1
7 v Hakoah St Kilda 1-0
6.5 v Sunshine City 2-1
Average: 6.9

The solidly-built Jimmy Spink is a relative newcomer to Victorian soccer, having been imported from Scotland by Croydon City last season.

But the impact he has made in the short time he has been here has been big. The sturdy Scot has impressed with his tackling and tight marking, although he hasn't fully shown his capabilities as an attacker.

Quick on the turn, Spink seems best suited to having a direct opponent to block. Many wingers will find this season that Spink doesn't give away too much.

His use of the ball is good, although not spectacular. But that's Spink's trademark — solid and safe.

JOHN CAIN
Position: centre half
Club: Green Gully Ajax
Previous club: Prahran Slavia
Ratings:
9 v Essendon Croatia 5-1
8 v George Cross 1-0
7.5 v Frankston City 2-3
7 v Hakoah St Kilda
Did not play v Albion Rovers
Average: 7.8

John Cain, along with Billy Vojtek and Steve Carr, helps form the backbone of the Green Gully Ajax team which has surprised so many people this season.

Last season Green Gully struggled, despite adding several new players to the squad, and Cain would have been looked at harshly by Ajax supporters had he not produced the goods this season.

Cain came good with several dominating displays in the heart of defence. Playing as a sweeper or stopper, Cain has shown skill plus power.

As a defender, he is strong in the tackle, good in the air and safe in a tight situation. But this game doesn't end there. Cain has an attacking impulse as well.

Often he pushes into the midfield with attacks to give support. The versatile Cain has shown in the past an ability to play as a midfielder or forward.

Cain's ability to aid his midfield makes him a valuable player indeed, and he will be a pillar of strength in the Ajax team this season.

NICK LOWE
Position: sweeper
Club: Sunshine City
Previous clubs: Oxford Utd (England), Mooroolbark
Ratings:
8 v Croydon City 1-2
8 v Altona City 1-2
7.5 v Hakoah St Kilda 0-1
7 v Juventus 1-0 set
7 v Preston Macedonia 0-0 (5-3 pens)
Average: 7.5

Nick Lowe played six games with Mooroolbark in the Philips League, and is the only player in the All-star team with national experience.

Lowe's class has made him shine in the State League since his transfer to Sunshine City in April last year.

Many observers think it's only a matter of time before a bigger club comes to Sunshine with a fat cheque to exchange for Lowe's services.

If Lowe does leave Sunshine this season, it will be the third consecutive year the club has parted company with its best player.

Steve Kokoska, a former Sunshine junior, left in 1977 for \$7000 in a transfer to Essendon Croatia, and last season Tommy Cumming left for a fee of \$5500.

Lowe is a former captain of English club Oxford Utd which is presently in the Third Division.

He is a highly-efficient sweeper, giving excellent cover to his fellow defenders.

He has stylish distribution and composure in a tight situation, and reads the play well.

STEVE BEECH
Position: full back
Club: Preston Macedonia
Previous club: joined from England
Ratings:
9 v Sunshine City 0-0 (3-5 pens)
8 v Altona City 2-1
8 v Croydon City 0-1
6 v Hakoah St Kilda 1-0
6 v Juventus 5-6 aet
Average: 7.4

Steve Beech has played a lot of soccer on the left wing, and has retained his flair for attack up to the flank despite his shift to full back.

Critics of the speedy Preston Macedonia defender say this is the cause of his weakness — too much going forward and not enough attention paid to his opponent.

But Beech has held a tighter reign on opposing wingers this season without losing too much of his attacking tendencies.

His medium build allows him to be strong enough for tackling in the vital area before goal but light enough to overlap and join in attacks.

He likes to get involved in one-to-ones with his midfielders, and often sends in good crosses from the flanks for his forwards. He is a very skilful player.

A full back's first job is to defend, but goals win games, and that could well be Beech's logic.

6.5 v Albion Rovers 2-1 aet
Average: 7.5

The responsibility of coaching has caused a marked change in the playing style of Billy Vojtek.

Since his transfer from Essendon Croatia to Green Gully, Vojtek has switched to midfield with great success.

His work-rate in midfield has been incredibly high for a player not known for his graft.

Although only slight in build and nearing the end of a long, distinguished career, Vojtek continually puts himself into the fray to win balls in the middle of the park.

He has been picking up opposing midfielders and getting back swiftly to help his defence.

The former Socceroo forward made a name with his ability to beat opponents with tricky ball skills and explosive acceleration.

But that has taken a back seat as Vojtek has become a general in the Green Gully team, taking responsibility for making the play and bringing the team together, rather than concentrating on individual effort.

He still beats opponents in a flash but then the ball is flicked off to a team mate and Green Gully is away.

Green Gully can only hope the physical battles Vojtek has each game don't take too much out of his player/coach.

PAT LOWREY
Position: midfielder
Club: Croydon City
Previous clubs: Mooroolbark, Western Suburbs, Sunderland (England)
Ratings:
8 v Altona City 3-1
8 v Juventus 2-1
7 v Hakoah St Kilda 2-1
7 v Sunshine City 2-1
6 v Preston Macedonia 0-1
Average: 7.2

Pat Lowrey and Croydon steps: is the popular theory circulating the State League at present. While it may not be true, it gives an idea of the reputation of former Mooroolbark midfielder Pat Lowrey.

With Lowrey firing, Croydon takes a lot of beating. The Irish ace is possibly the best striker of a ball in Victoria (PSL included), and can knock 40 metre passes straight as an arrow all day.

He can drop a chipped pass over player's head a get it to drop five yards behind him, and follow up with a fierce long-range shot.

As well as being the playmaker, Lowrey is a mobile player, and can work his way into the penalty area for attacking moves.

He is in his second season with Croydon City. He joined the club after the collapse of Mooroolbark.

Lowrey made five appearances with Western Suburbs (NSW) in the Philips League in 1977, before transferring to Mooroolbark early in the season.

There he made 17 appearances, scoring four goals.

DUNCAN SMITH
Position: midfielder
Club: Croydon City
Previous club: East Fife (Scotland)
Ratings:
8 v Altona City 3-1
7.5 v Juventus 2-1
7 v Hakoah St Kilda 2-1
7 v Sunshine City 2-1
7 v Preston Macedonia 0-1
Average: 7.3

They hit hard in the Scottish Leagues, and Duncan Smith is proof of this.

The former East Fife player is an aggressive, non-nonsense midfielder who adds steel to the Croydon City line-up.

Recruited mid-way through last season, Smith settled down quickly. He made an immediate impression with his robust play, which complemented the skilful side of Croydon.

Smith will go all day, winning balls, breaking down attacks, helping his defence and playing economical passes.

He fits into the Croydon pattern of play and remains consistent in his role. No hitting 40 metre passes that look good but don't create much, or trying to dribble past three opponents. Smith does his job. He's a great team player.

His displays in the Ampol Cup have been good. Smith isn't going to win too many friends with his style but it's unlikely that will

STEVE CARR
Position: striker
Club: Green Gully Ajax
Previous club: Birmingham City (England)
Ratings:
9 v Essendon Croatia 5-1
8 v George Cross 1-0
8 v Albion Rovers 2-1 aet
7 v Frankston City 2-3
7 v Prahran Slavia 0-1
Average: 7.8

Green Gully Ajax's Steve Carr was equal top goalscorer after the completion of the Ampol Cup group matches.

But goals aside, Carr has emerged with George McMillan of Preston Macedonia as the most exciting and talented striker in the State League at present.

Carr scored five goals to tie with Noel Mitten of Frankston City as the top goalscorer.

The former Birmingham City (England) forward arrived in Australia last season to play with Green Gully, but made no real impact in a struggling Ajax team.

This season, he has shown his class in several areas. His willingness to graft is evident, and he's not afraid to bustle to get past a defence.

As a target man, he is fast at coming off defenders and lays off early passes.

And his ability as a goal taker has been proved with his five goals in five games, two of which came in a losing 2-3 scoreline against Frankston City.

Carr is a fast, stylish player and he will surely score at least twice as many goals in the State League as he did last season.

His 1978 tally for championship matches was five from 16 games.

GEORGE McMILLAN
Position: striker
Club: Preston Macedonia
Previous clubs: Essendon Croatia, Perth Azurri
Ratings:
9 v Croydon City 1-0
8.5 v Juventus 5-6
7 v Sunshine 0-0 (3-5 pens)
7 v Altona City 2-1
6 v Hakoah St Kilda 0-1
Average: 7.5

George McMillan of Preston Macedonia is the State League's "machine man".

No player is more determined on the field than George and no one else takes as much physical punishment as the lanky Scot.

What's more, few players can bounce back from heavy knocks like McMillan, who professes to be able to treat his own injuries.

McMillan's outlook is simple — play the game hard and fast. This attitude makes McMillan an awesome sight for any defence.

His pace and battering-ram style gives defenders not an inch.

Nobody has ever doubted George's guts and determination. But the skill the big man possesses was not always recognised.

Towards the end of Preston's Ampol Cup campaign, McMillan came to the fore with some skillful performances. The secret was that McMillan started to slow himself down when on the ball, which allowed his skill to show through.

McMillan joined Preston from Essendon Croatia at the start of 1978 after half a season with Croatia.

He originally came to Victoria from Perth, where he played for the Azurri club.

TOMMY CUMMING
Position: winger
Club: Essendon Croatia
Previous club: Sunshine City
Ratings:
9 v Prahran Slavia 2-0
8 v Frankston City 2-0
7 v Albion Rovers 2-0
7.5 v George Cross 0-0 (4-5 pens)
4 v Green Gully 1-5
Average: 6.9

At his current rate of progress, Essendon Croatia's Tommy Cumming will probably be playing for Australia inside two years.

Cumming, of course, is a long way from national selection, but no one can deny the Scottish winger has achieved a lot in a short space of time in Australia.

A Rothmans Gold Medal, a Bill Fleming Medal, representative games for Victoria, Ampol Cup, State League Cup and State League championship winners' medals down a big-money transfer is a lot to cram into three years.

Now Cumming is on the transfer list at Essendon Croatia, with the aim of playing in the Philips League.

The wee winger (he's only 5ft 4ins) has an energetic style that makes him a favorite with the fans.

This season's Ampol Cup has seen his fortunes fluctuate. Against Ajax he was marked right out of the game by John Patten,



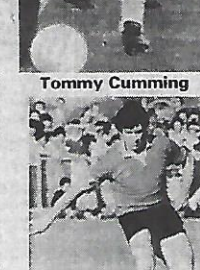
Billy Vojtek



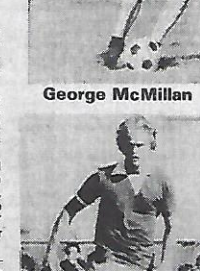
Pat Lowrey



Duncan Smith



Tommy Cumming



George McMillan

The world of soccer . . . the world of soccer

McCracken: the King of offside

From DOUG CONWAY of AAP

THE ultimate punishment for lovers of fast, attacking soccer would be to be transported back in time to early 1920 England, and forced to sit through a match in which Billy McCracken was playing.

McCracken, who died here last month aged 95, was the acknowledged master of the offside trap.

So mischievously and skillfully did he exploit the rule, that he will go down in history as the man who forced the authorities to change the law.

Operating in almost telepathic partnership with Frank Hudspeth, his fellow full-back at Newcastle, McCracken was able to reduce many a match to little more than a tedious succession of whistle stops.

They say that visiting teams getting off the train at Newcastle Central Station on match Saturdays would hear the guard's whistle and to a man, chorus: "bloody 'ell, offside already!"

In those days a player was offside unless there were at least three opponents between himself and the goal-line when the ball was last played.

With the centre half usually well forward in his old attacking role, the three defenders involved tended to be the goalkeeper and the two full-backs.

Thus it needed only one of the backs to move up in the instant before a pass was made, to catch the opposition offside.

McCracken and Hudspeth were not the inventors of the tactic. A Notts county pair, Morely and Montgomery, cottoned on to the idea just before the First World War.

But they were its finest exponents, the men who perfected the loophole.

Everyone wanted to see McCracken and his perverse plan in action. In the 1911 FA cup final against Bradford City, which was replayed at Manchester's Old Trafford ground, a Manchester factory circulated a notice to its employees on the Monday morning.

"All requests for leave of absence on account of toothaches, severe colds and minor ailments, funerals, picnics, church socials, and the like, must be handed to the head of Department before 10 am on the morning of Wednesday's match."

But McCracken's fame did not exactly make him a universal favourite. The negative influence was stifling the game.

By the end of the 1924-25 season, goals and gates were in decline. Something had to be done.

In 1925, two years after McCracken's retirement, the offside law was changed so

that only two instead of three players were needed to put an attacker inside. The rule remains today.

The immediate effect was to release the floodgates for a deluge of goals. Spectators actually began smiling again on the terraces. Huddersfield won its third successive league title with goal figures of 92 for and 60 against, compared with 69-28 the previous season.

Manchester City scored almost as many (89) but was relegated. Sunderland conceded a massive 80 goals but still managed to finish third.

When he died on January 20, Billy McCracken was 95, four years older than the football league and only 11 years junior to the Football Association (FA).

"It is hard to think of anyone else who can have played so major a part in the affairs of both bodies without actually sharing their deliberations," commented David Lacey of the "Guardian" newspaper.

McCracken won two Championship medals and appeared in three Cup finals for Newcastle in his 21-year-career, and was capped 15 times for Ireland. It could have been many more, but for a conversation he had once on a steamer taking him from Liverpool across to Ireland.

He was travelling to an Ireland v England fixture with a Newcastle colleague, who was playing for England, when he learned that the English FA paid five shillings more in expenses. On arrival in the Ireland dressing room Billy refused to change until the Irish money was made up. The selectors "blackballed" him for years.

McCracken worked for many years as a talent scout. He was still doing the job for Second Division Millwall up until a few years ago.

It was as a scout that he reckoned he made his best achievement for soccer. Fifteen years ago he tipped off Watford that a teenage goalkeeper from Newry named Pat Jennings was playing in a youth tournament at Bognor Regis, on England's south coast.

Jennings, now the Arsenal and Northern Ireland's keeper, is rated one of the best in the world.

A yellowing copy of the Manchester Guardian shows how Billy McCracken was seen by his contemporaries. "Crowds flocked to watch him, composed mainly of angry and prejudiced men, and few there were who had the patience to acknowledge the beauty of McCracken's techniques in the abstract."

All they saw was a player whose phenomenal mastery over a defensive mood could repeatedly arrest and disrupt a game."

KAISERSLAUTERN SET FOR FIRST CHAMPIONSHIP

Kaiserslautern, the club which boasted Fritz Walter, Ottmar Walter, Werner Kohlmeyer and Werner Liebrich in the fifties, is set to win its first Bundesliga championship.

Before last weekend's round of matches, Kaiserslautern held a two-point lead over second-placed VfB Stuttgart, with Hamburger SV another three points behind in third place.

Kaiserslautern's star is Swedish international goalkeeper Ronnie Hellstrom, who finished sixth in the European Player of the Year poll.

Other stars are striker Benny Wendt, also a Swe-

dish international, midfielder Hannes Bongartz, winger Reiner Geyer and of course German international Klaus Toppmoeller.

Kaiserslautern is one of only two Bundesliga clubs that own their own stadium, the other being Eintracht Braunschweig.

The ground holds 33,000 and the average gate in the first half of the season has been 30,635.

Best supported club in the league, surprisingly, is last-placed Nurnberg with an average of 39,557.

Next came VfB Stuttgart with 38,750, Bayern Munchen with 37,169, and Hamburger SV with 36,403.

Defending champion 1.FC Koeln, which last year had an average of 34,645, has slipped to an average of 27,491, but recently signed a \$420,000-a-year deal to display a Japanese trade emblem on the players' shirts.

For his success so far this year, Kaiserslautern's coach Karl-Heinz Feldkamp, 44, was recently named West Germany's "Man of the Year" by the sports paper "Fussball Woche."

Kaiserslautern's president is Juergen Friedrich, a former player and, at 34, the youngest club president in the league.

Stars out

LAUSANNE, Switzerland. — FIFA has won support from other Olympic sports bodies for its decision to exclude East European and Latin American World Cup players from the 1980 Olympic tournament in Moscow.

LORD KILLANIN, president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), told a Press conference that the 26 sports federations which govern Olympic sport unanimously supported FIFA's action as a "positive step towards protecting the amateur spirit."



Ronnie Hellstrom

TV for \$39m

ZURICH, Switzerland. — Television companies in Europe, Latin America, Asia and the Middle East have agreed to pay 39 million Swiss francs (20.4 million Aust dollars) for the right to screen the 1982 World Soccer Cup in Spain, the International Football Federation (FIFA) said this week.

The consortium, which groups the world's major television broadcasters except those in North America, also gained radio and video-cassette rights under the agreement reached yesterday.

The federation said a FIFA delegation including representatives of the Spanish organising committee reached the deal with the television consortium in its second round of talks.

The two sides first met in Zurich early last month.

Television rights to the 1978 World Cup in Argentina were sold by FIFA to a television consortium for 28 million West German marks (13 million Aust dollars).

Green rides the merry-go-round

Brian Green, the former Australian coach and ex-Rochdale manager, quit Leeds to join Blackburn as a coach on Monday, then a few days later quit Blackburn to become Stockport's assistant manager.

★★★

Mervyn Day, who reached stardom at a tender age a good few years ago in the West Ham goal, is now up for sale for 150,000 pounds after the recent half million acquisition of Phil Parkes.

Newcastle are poised with a 200,000 pounds bid for Rangers striker Derek Parlane, who has lost his regular place in the Glasgow side. Spurs may make a 250,000 pounds bid for Cambridge Uniteds striker Alan Biley. Jack Charlton of Sheffield Wednesday fancies Ipswich's Irish central defender Allan Hunter while Newcastle (always in the news) have had a 300,000 pounds bid turned down for Bolton's Neil Whitemore.

★★★ Tommy Docherty is in the news again. He is hearing chants of "The Doc must go" following Derby County's poor form and results, which are dragging the side nearer the relegation zone.

★★★ Hugh Curran, the 35 year old Oxford striker has been forced to quit through a recurring knee injury after a long career with many clubs. Curran, a Scot, will be remembered for Wolves tour of Australia, which was the first time Australia had ever beaten a British side. Curran was ordered off in the dying stages of that game at Olympic Park.

★★★ Birmingham's demise and slide towards relegation must sadden their chief scout Don

Trevor Francis (Notts Forest) Kenny Burns (Notts Forest) and Bob Latchford (Everton)

★★★ Chelsea's new Yugoslav goalkeeper Peter Borota, who cost a mere 70,000 pounds from Partizan Belgrade and had a great debut in the Peninsula O-O draw with Liverpool, is affectionately known as "Killer" at Stamford Bridge.

★★★ Wolves are in the running to sign France World Cup star Michael Platini for around 400,000 pounds, are reported to have competition from a German side. But Platini is keen to join the foreign legion of players in England.

★★★ Alex Work, the Albion (Vic) defender has two brothers in top British soccer. Joe is a star with Ipswich while John is a keyman in the Motherwell defence.

★★★ Sir Alf Ramsay has been in Kuwait as guest of the Football Association there, and although he was tight lipped on his return it is expected he will be offered the post as soccer supremo in Kuwait shortly.

From JIM COOK

KULESZA FORMS A NEW-LOOK POLAND

Many new names are included in the first squad picked by Poland's new national coach, Ryszard Kulesza, 48, who has succeeded Jacek Gmoch.

The squad is: Goalkeepers: Mlynarczyk, Jukla. Defenders: Szymanski, Zmuda, Janas, Rudy, Dziuba.

Midfield: Cmikiewicz, Majewski, Boniek, Faber, Sobol.

Forwards: Lato, Ogaza, Mazur, Bybils.

The squad was picked for a training programme in Tunisia.

Those yet to be added include Wisla Krakow stars Henryk Maciejewicz and Adam Nawalka.

Midfielder Stefan Majewski of Zawisza Bydgoszcz is playing his first season in First Division. Midfield is the strongest part of the Polish squad, for it features also Zbigniew Boniek of Widzew Lodz, the Polish Footballer of the Year.

About complaints that Jerzy Gorgon is not in the squad, Kulesza said this week: "Gorgon has shown improved form recently — but in the Second Division where he is not really extended." Gorgon's club, Gornik Zabrze, was relegated.

He once represented Poland as a junior and later coached minor teams Ruch Piesznice, Mazowsze Grojec, Anielec Pruszkow and Lachia Gdansk.

In 1974 he became FA coach to the under 21 and later the B team of Poland. At the same time he acted as assistant to the national team manager, who was then Kaz Gorski.

Under Kulesza's guidance the national B team suffered only two defeats in 22 matches.

"Unfortunately, our present team is nowhere near as strong as say five years ago," he said this week.

"The side lacks flair and improvisation with which it surprised the opposition in the 1974 World Cup. Our performances in Argentina were disappointing, but I have already begun the rebuilding and rejuvenation and hope to find a mixture of youth and experience to lead us back among the elite."

"We have now a few youngsters who were beloved recently, like Nawalka, Iwan and Terlecki. We also have high hopes for others, namely Wojtowicz, Golek, Malinowicz and Mlynarczyk."

"I have deliberately left out those stars now playing abroad — Tomaszewski, Kas-



Fritz Walter, the former Kaiserslautern star. He played in West Germany's 1954 World Cup — winning team.

WHY FOREST PAID 1m. pounds

By BRUCE WADDELL

The announcement of England striker Trevor Francis' transfer from Birmingham City to Nottingham Forest has many people wondering how a club could afford to splash out 1 million pounds for a single Soccer player.

Francis is not the only player to have been involved in the multi million pound English transfer merry-go-round.

Although soccer in England draws a national following, many of the 92 League clubs claim they are on the breadline, yet the big money continues to change hands.

There is a simple explanation. The high scale of transfer fees is set by the more prosperous clubs, who literally have money to burn.

Any profit they make is liable to 52 per cent corporation tax.

So any club making a profit in a season of 500,000 pounds pays just over half to the British Government.

But — and here's the secret — if clubs spend 1 million pounds, and show a loss they don't pay any tax and can reclaim tax paid the previous year.

For example, League title aspirants West Bromwich Albion would have had to pay 230,000 pounds this year had they not bought David Mills from Middlesbrough for 516,000 pounds.

Manchester United had a loss of 270,000 pounds in their last financial year, which is not as bad as it seems.

Because they outlayed 850,000 pounds for Gordon McQueen and Joe Jordan from Leeds, they can now recoup the 290,000 pounds tax paid in the previous year.

Arsenal is one of the few clubs which does run at a yearly profit and could have afforded Francis.

Yet Arsenal, who paid 333,000 pounds for Malcolm Macdonald, is one of many clubs who feel no player is worth what Francis cost Forest.

Arsenal claim, when they bought Macdonald, his drawing power added 10,000 paying customers to every home game; which over the season realised 250,000 pounds.

Transfer fees and reclamation of taxes means the money stays in football.

Money spent on ground improvements is not tax deductible — another reason why clubs prefer to spend their cash on new players.

A 500,000 pounds bank loan at 15 per cent means a yearly interest bill of 75,000 pounds.

Chelsea are now living with that situation after their extensive development of Stamford Bridge.

They might have been better off financially forming

ALEXANDER v. HELLAS OLYMPIC PARK, SUNDAY

BULJEVIC THE TRUMP CARD AGAIN

By LAURIE SCHWAB

There is little justification for any optimism South Melbourne Hellas may be feeling about its clash with Heidelberg Alexander at Olympic Park greyhound track on Sunday.

Heidelberg, previously called Fitzroy, has won three and drawn two of the five games between the clubs since the Philips League started in 1977.

In doing so, it has scored 13 goals to South Melbourne's six.

And it has also had a consistent winner in striker Branko Buljevic who has scored five goals against South Melbourne in those five games.

He notched two of them in Heidelberg's 5-2 victory in 1977 and two in its 4-1 triumph of 1978. Both games were at Olympic Park's No.1 ground.

Heidelberg has had the more settled team over the two seasons of the PSL. At least five of the players who will take the field on Sunday appeared in the previous five

games against South Melbourne.

In contrast, Mike Pye is the only one of Souths' present players who has appeared in the five matches.

Every game between the teams in the PSL has attracted at least 10,000 people. This time the crowd is expected to be anything between 12,000 and 20,000.

One of Heidelberg's trump cards will be goalkeeper Yakka Banovic, the star recruit from Essendon Croatia.

Midfield remains a headache for coach John Margaritis. Jim Campbell, Theo Selemidis, Ken Taylor and Pat Bannon are all vying for the two midfield positions alongside Jimmy Rooney.

Margaritis may decide to use Campbell up front in place of Andy Bozikas, and

give the two midfield positions to Taylor and Selemidis, with Bannon standing by to go in if he is needed.

Soth Melbourne coach Dave McLaren has a similar midfield problem. Ken Drakeford, Bertie Lutton, Sammy Wright, George Christopoulos and Alan Davidson are the players vying for the three midfield positions.

Squads:
ALEXANDER: Banovic, Mamer, McMillan, Provan, O'Reilly, Tansey, Rooney, Taylor, Selemidis, Campbell, Bannon, Bozikas, Cole, Buljevic.

HELLAS: Reilly, Laumets, Pye, Kalafatis, Baxter, Turner, Lutton, Wright, Drakeford, Davidson, Christopoulos, Cummings, Evans, G. Campbell.

FACTS AND FIGURES

1977

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1 (Cummings 57th) FITZROY ALEXANDER 1 (Provan 88th) at Middle Park.

Ratings:
HELLAS: Reilly 6 - Pye 8, Xanthopoulos 6, Kalafatis 7, Hagemanouli 6 - Gibson 5, Rogers 5, Daperis 4 (Alexiou 80th) - Cummings 6, Ollerton 6, French 4. Total: 63.

ALEXANDER: Blasby 6 - Nelson 5, O'Reilly 7, Glykokalamos 7, Provan 6, Rakovalis 6 - Campbell 5 (Selemidis 70th), Taylor 7, P. Bannon 7 - Bozikas 6 (Kokkinos 6 half time), Buljevic 9. Total: 72.

FITZROY ALEXANDER 5 (Buljevic 2, Cole 2, Rogers own goal) SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 2 (Rogers 2) at Olympic Park.

ALEXANDER: Blasby 4 (Whiteside 5, 58th) - V. Bannon 7, O'Reilly 7, Provan 6, P. Bannon 7, McMillan 8 - Campbell 6 (Tansey 82nd), Taylor 7, Bozikas 7 - Cole 7, Buljevic 9. Total: 75.5.

HELLAS: Reilly 5 - Pye 6, Xanthopoulos 5, Kalafatis 5, Daperis 4 (Hagemanouli 6 half time) - Mitten 6, Rogers 8, Gibson 5 - Kent 7, French 6, Ollerton 8. Total: 66.

1978

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1 (Kent 45th) FITZROY ALEXANDER 1 (Cole 53rd) at Middle Park.

HELLAS: Hansen 7 - Pye 6, Kalafatis 8, Baxter 7, Hagemanouli 7 - Lutton 9, Wright 6, Rogers 6 - McGuinness 7, Ollerton 6, Kent 8. Total: 77.

ALEXANDER: Blasby 8 - McMillan 7, Provan 7, P. Bannon 6, Tansey 8 - Campbell 6, Taylor 7, Tront 6 (O'Reilly 6, half time - Bozikas 6, Cole 7, Buljevic 8. Total: 76.

FITZROY ALEXANDER 4 (Buljevic 2, Campbell, McMillan) SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1 (Rogers) at Olympic Park.

ALEXANDER: Blasby 7 - McMillan 8, Provan 7, O'Reilly 7, Tansey 9 - Taylor 9 (injured, sub Micevski 69th), P. Bannon 8, Campbell 9 - Bozikas 8, Cole 8, Buljevic 9. Total: 80.

HELLAS: Reilly 6 - Pye 7, Kalafatis 6, Baxter 8, Hagemanouli 6 - Lutton 6, Wright 6, Christopoulos 6 (McGuinness 6 half time) - Cummings 6, Rogers 6, G. Campbell 9. Total: 70.

PHILIPS CUP SECOND ROUND
FITZROY ALEXANDER 2 (Buljevic 88th, Taylor 110th) SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1 (Cummings 89th) at Olympic Park (night game).

ALEXANDER: Mamer 9 - McMillan 8, Provan 7, O'Reilly 9, Tansey 8 - P. Bannon 8, Taylor 8, Campbell 7 - Selemidis 7 (Micevski 94th), Cole 6, Buljevic 7. Total: 84.

HELLAS: Reilly 7 - Pye 8, Baxter 7, Munro 8, Hagemanouli 7 - Lutton 8, Wright 6 (Rogers 8 half time), Christopoulos 6 - G. Campbell 8, Evans 8, Cummings 7. Total: 81.

Total appearances by each player in matches between Hellas and Alexander:

HELLAS
5. Pye, Hagemanouli, Rogers.
4. Reilly, Kalafatis,
3. Cummings, Ollerton, Baxter, Lutton, Wright.
2. Xanthopoulos, Gibson, Daperis, French, Kent, McGuinness, Christopoulos, G. Campbell.

1. Alexiou, Mitten, Hansen, Munro, Evans.
ALEXANDER
5. O'Reilly, Provan, J. Campbell, Taylor, P. Bannon, Buljevic.

4. Blasby, Bozikas, McMillan, Tansey, Cole.
2. Selemidis, Micevski.
1. Nelson, Glykokalamos, Rakovalis, Kokkinos, Whiteside, V. Bannon, Tront, Mamer.

Goalscorers in matches between the two teams:

HELLAS
3. Rogers
2. Cummings
1. Kent

ALEXANDER
5. Buljevic
3. Cole
1. Provan, J. Campbell, McMillan, Taylor, Rogers o.g.

Total team ratings: ALEXANDER 395.5, HELLAS 357.

Best players, with ratings, in matches between the teams:

ALEXANDER
8.4 Buljevic
8.3 Tansey
7.7 McMillan
7.6 Taylor
7.2 O'Reilly

HELLAS
8.5 G. Campbell (two games only)
7.6 Lutton
6.6 Rogers

ALEXANDER'S ADVANTAGE IN FIGURES:
W D L F A Pts
3 2 0 13 6 8



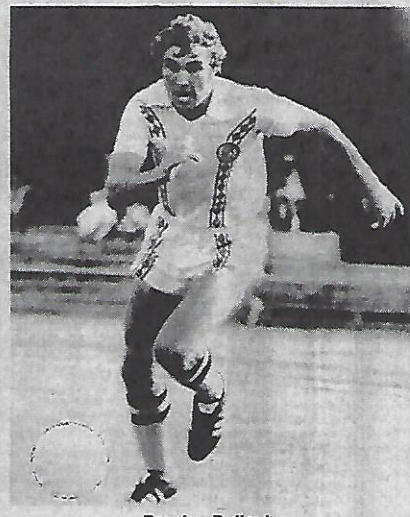
Alun Evans



Mike Pye



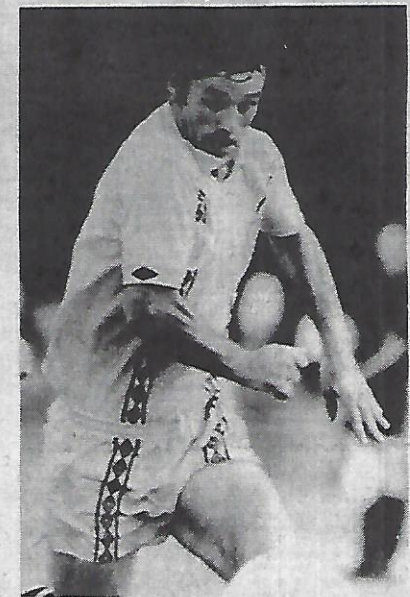
Duncan Cummings



Branko Buljevic



Gary Cole



Jimmy Rooney

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JOHN MARGARITIS

SUNSHINE 2
MELBOURNE 0

Scorers: Scholten, Dixey, Lowe, Ellis, Howo, Esposito, R. Nelson, Russell, McNally, Gilmour (Paisley 46th), D. Nelson.

MELBOURNE: Kennedy, Diamantaris, Rao, Drinoczi, Csfo, Hall, Brazil, Lee, Liu, Vukovic (Bond 91st, Jurina).

Referee: Mike Daly.

Scorers: McNally 93rd, R. Nelson 98.

Cautions: Lowe, Ellis (Sunshine), Lee (Melb).

Face-saving goals by John McNally and Robbie Nelson in extra time gave Sunshine a flattering scoreline against a Melbourne outfit which could have won the match if it had converted the numerous chances created.

Sunshine drafted in McNally on the right wing after Wilf Laing had been added to the injury list with a broken toe. Coach Bill Welsh confirmed before the match that Sunshine will blood youngsters in the side even if it means fighting an uphill battle against relegation for most of the season.

Welsh wants to strengthen the goalkeeping situation but keeps Dennis Boland and Peter Clarke not within the club's reach. Clarke, awarded a free transfer, has asked for an unreasonable signing on fee which the club can't afford.

Melbourne featured their three new signings and certainly have got a bargain in the signing of Ken Hall from Box Hill. He had a very useful first half continually prompting from midfield when in possession and covering or tackling tigerishly when defending.

The club expects three new players from England in the near future including two strikers.

And they certainly needed one on Saturday. Tom Vukovic was presented with three clear cut chances from cunning veteran Steve Jurina but failed to convert any.

The veteran fooler referee Daly with his antics, making a meal of every tackle, but he was quick to spot the half chance and split Sunshine's defence twice in the first half.

Vukovic ran onto the first one but allowed Scholten to come out to narrow the angle and the keeper managed to turn the shot to a corner.

The second came within three minutes of the break, and again he sent Vukovic away but the young centre forward pranced around on the edge of the area long enough for Sunshine to bring back their numbers and avoid any real danger.

Sunshine lacked any penetrative moves and threatened only on occasions. David Nelson had two cross shots saved, and John Kennedy parried a pile driver from Frank Russell in the 40th minute.

Melbourne's Alan Lee, playing against his former club, had an inspired second half and gave Hugh Howe a harrowing time but found nobody to finish his crosses from the right.

Jurina put Vukovic through for the third time in the 62nd minute and this time the striker shook off Ellis who was held back by his shirt as he was about to take on the keeper. Ellis earned a booking for that but Melbourne wasted the resultant free kick sending it into touch.

The match slowed down in pace towards the end and with no goals on the board, went into extra time.

Sunshine finally broke the duck when from a right wing cross McNally headed into the net in the 93rd minute of play and the Melbourne heads definitely sank then.

Robbie Nelson drove the point home with a second five minutes later when his scorching shot from the edge of the area hit the underside of the bar on its way into the net.

Despite the defeat, Melbourne should do well in the first division. The same could not be said for Sunshine who look like they're in for a very hard winter.

PETER DESIRA

GEO CROSS 4
PORT MELB 1

Scorers: George Cross: Mizzi 16th, 88th, Paparas 43rd, Mifsud 67th; Port Melbourne: Lazzaris 14th.

Ground: Green Gully Reserve, St. Albans.

Weather: Hot at first, then showers.

Crowd: About 400.

Referee: Colin Johns.

Sent off: Kypros (Port Melb) 89th min. Ratings:

GEORGE CROSS: Matsson 6 — Cutajar 7, Maltland 7, Wilkinson 7, Barron 7 — Mirak 7, Castella 6, Paparas 7 — Sodanaco 6 (Mifsud 6, 40th min.), Mizzi 9, Scicluna 7 (Rizzo 80th) Total: 76.

PORT MELBOURNE: Karamouslis 7, Triandafidis 7, Tyrkoo 6, Teklanos 6, Lokias 6.5 — Flogiannis 5.5, Papa 5.5, Vigos 6.5 — Kokoras 5.5 (Papanicolaou 5.5, half time), Kypros 6.5 (sent off 89th), Lazzaris 6 (Vathis 70th) Total: 65.

George Cross recovered from its humiliating Ampol Cup loss to Albion Rovers the previous week to beat Port Melbourne 4-1 after trailing by a goal early in the game.

The return of Jim Paparas after injury strengthened George Cross' midfield and Tony Scicluna had one of his best games for the Cross on the wing while Ray Mizzi was again the outstanding player of the match.

Right back Anestes Triandafidis prevented a certain goal in the fifth minute when he cleared off the line a Mizzi header which had beaten flashy goalkeeper Arthur Karamouslis.

And in the 14th minute Port Melbourne took the lead, suggesting it might emulate the shock result achieved by Frankston Pines over Albion Rovers in the previous game.

Striker Nick Lazaridis latched onto a through ball on the left with the George Cross defence unsuspecting, and hit it past Suez Matsson into the net.

But Port Melbourne's glory was short-lived.

Only two minutes later, Steve Sodanaco, the young George Cross forward for whom coach John Sanchez predicts a bright future, crossed a ball which eluded everyone except Mizzi who slid onto it to score the equaliser.

Karamouslis stopped two more goals when he flew horizontally to block a drive by Sodanaco and then threw himself at a short cross from Phil Cutajar. Robert Mirak missed the goal from close range and, with five minutes to halftime, Sanchez replaced Sodanaco with Francis Mifsud.

Mizzi broke through but Port Melbourne player-coach Takis Vigos came back quickly to block the lethal George Cross striker.

Two minutes from half time Mizzi flicked the ball out to Paparas on his left and Paparas drove the ball low, just inside the near post, leaving Karamouslis diving at thin air. George Cross thus went into the dressing rooms with a 2-1 half-time lead.

Port Melbourne returned with George Papanicolaou on the wing in place of Jim Kokoras.

George Cross was quick to attack with Mizzi slinging a brilliant pass back over his shoulder to Scicluna who evaded his opponent before squaring the ball but Karamouslis dived on it just before Paparas could unleash a shot.

In the 67th minute left back Alex Lekkas missed badly with a sliding tackle on the right wing, leaving a clear path for Scicluna who went on a run before cutting back for Paparas.

Paparas mislicked, slicing the ball to his left where it found Mifsud who tapped it into the net for George Cross' third goal.

Emmanuel Vathis replaced Lazaridis for Port Melbourne and Karamouslis prevented another goal when he saved from Paparas.

Then Rizzo came on for George Cross, replacing Scicluna.

Four minutes from the end Mifsud charged down the left wing, changed feet and crossed to Mizzi who rose to head in the third goal.

— LAURIE SCHWAB

CROYDON 11
ESS. CITY 0

Scorers: Hamilton 26th, 27th, 60th, 74th, 78th (pen), 77th, Tront 5th, 44th, Prentley 28th, Spinks 72nd, Lowrey 73rd.

Ground: Wembley Park.

Crowd: 1000 (double header).

Weather: sunny.

Cautions: none.

Referee: Hammes 6.

Ratings:

CROYDON CITY: Edwards 6 (Morton 6, 50th min), Wilkin 8, Pongho 6, McCombe 6, Sinclair 6, Prentley 7 (Injured), Holman 7, 26th min, Lowrey 8, Smith 7, Tront 9, Hamilton 8, Wylie 7. Total: 78.

ESSENDON CITY: Biasol 7, Manini 4 (Pelzo 70th min), Yangoulai 5, Sindoni 5, Traffante 5, Brogno 7, Carlet 5, Capponi 4, Banda 6, Paglia 3, Deliza 7. Total: 58.

Poor Essendon City! The Italian-backed Third Division club was unlucky enough to stumble into the path of Croydon City, which was turning over its 1-5 drubbing at the hands of Slavia in the Ampol Cup.

The young Essendon side was caned. Eleven goals conceded with no reply paints a pretty grim picture.

Joe Tront was in magical form for Croydon. He scored two but set up many others.

Roy Hamilton was the main beneficiary of Tront's creative play. He scored six goals, mainly through finishing off moves. But his finishing was economical and precise.

Jimmy Spink had a good game, capped off by his goal in the 72nd minute.

That goal started an avalanche for Croydon. In the five minutes following Spinks goal, Croydon added four goals.

Every Croydon player contributed to the win, but many of the Essendon boys were overawed or simply out-classed.

Goalkeeper Biasol had a good game despite picking the ball out the net 11 times. He made several fine saves, and didn't throw the towel in.

Striker Deliza showed some nice touches, but was restricted because of lack of support from team mates.

Last year's winner of the Weinstein Medal for the best under 16 player — Robert Traffante — played left back for Essendon.

— SERGE BERARDINI



Croydon City's
Roy Hamilton

Remaining Dock-
erty Cup results:

ESSENDON CROATIA 5
(Glider 3, Cumming 2) **WILLIAMSTOWN 0**

CROATIA: Blasby, Smart, Short, Kokosa, Bilaver, Adams, Murphy, Kerr (Batinovic), Cumming, Glider, Cullen.

WESTERN SUBURBS 1
(Daperis) **NORTH GEELONG 1**
get 4-2 Wests on penalties.

WESTS: Mitandis, Kypridis, Glykokostas, Javaski, Daplis, Daperis, Moore, Theodoridis, Pock, Czapnik, Kokinos (Hebble).

PRESTON MAKEDONIA 8
(McMillan 5, Cullen 2, Flavell) **SOUTH OAKLEIGH 1**

PRESTON: Kastner, Petrov, Garthwaite, Brewerton, Beech, Rainey (Higham), Flavell, Petrovski (Masalovski), Cullen, McMillan, Faulkner.

GREEN GULLY AJAX 6
(Segi 2, Pavlovic 2, Perkins, own goal) **BORONIA 0**

AJAX: Denys (Margro), Donaldson, Cain (Patterson), Crilly, Pavlovic, McCarthy, L. Thomson, Segi, Carr, Perkins.

PRAHRAN SLAVIA 2 (Tuft, Paton pen) **KEILOR CITY 1**

SLAVIA: McPherson, Thompson, Westley, Yzendoorn, Pye, Brindle, Train, Tuft, Aldridge, Paton, Williams.

ALTONA CITY 5 (Taylor 2, Little 2, Train pen) **WERRIBEE 1**

ALTONA: Van der Poel, Wilson, Murray, Gramsbrown, Train, Watters, Kelly, Hird, Bawgan (Plessa Half time, sent off 86th min), Taylor (Istanidis), Little.

Victorian Dockerty Cup



John Gardiner (right) next to a picture of himself at the 1978 Rothmans Medal dinner. At left is medal winner Tommy Cumming.

Gardiner and Bernard seek transfers

John Gardiner has been placed on the transfer list by Essendon Croatia and is expected to leave the club soon.

Gardiner was left out of Croatia's team that played in the Dockerty Cup at the weekend, because he had been allegedly talking with Preston Makedonia about a possible transfer.

His place in defence was taken by Steve Short.

Howard Andrews is the latest player to show dissatisfaction with Croatia.

Meanwhile, Makedonia has transfer-listed John Bernard, the former Sunshine City and Victorian midfielder.

Makedonia has imported a new player, John Higham from Southport, where he played 120 first-team games. He is a centre back.



John Bernard (right) is tackled by Kevin Wilson of Altona.

FRANK. PINES 1 ALBION R. 0

Scorer: Shepherd 30th
Ground: Green Gully Reserve, St. Albans.

Weather: Hot.

Crowd: About 400.

Referee: Tony Beazleigh

Cautions: Wark (ARI), Cairns (FP)

Sent off: Bennett (FP) 85th.

Ratings:

FRANKSTON PINES:

Radvov 7 — Bennett 9, Effern 8, Paulding 7, Ferris 6 — Irvine 8.5, Thoma 6.5 (Lewis 70th), Mitchell 7, Watson 5 (Cameron 5, 49th) — Shepherd 7.5, Cairns 6.5 Total: 77.5.

ALBION ROVERS:

Johnson 7 — Nisbet 6.5, Wark 7, Blair 6.5, Gatt 6.5 — Denham 7, Stokas 6.5 (McNeil 6, McIntyre 5.5 (Grechan 8, 51st) — McCormack 5 (Miller 67th), D'Sylva 7. Total: 71.5.

This upset result was achieved with an opportunistic goal by Graham Shepherd and a lot of resolute defensive work, especially by right back Dennis Bennett who however, was sent off five minutes from the end.

Albion Rovers attacked for almost the entire second half

in a bid to get back into the game, so Frankston Pines, coached by former Slavia and New Zealand international star Tommy Randles, deserves praise for the way it stuck to its guns.

Another fine individual performance came from Pines' midfielder, John Irvine who ran like a hotted-up machine to destroy Albion moves all over the field and set up some of his own.

Despite having so much of the play, Albion rarely threatened the Frankston goal. It was only after Kit Grechan came on in the second half that Pines had cause for concern.

Mike D'Sylva looked dangerous on occasions, such as when he shot in the first minute of play, only to see Branko Radvov gather in the ball at his second attempt.

At the other end, Billy Johnson came out courageously to stop Shepherd, colliding with the Pines forward in the process.

A square ball by Bill McIntyre saw Bill McCormack sliding in for one of Albion's many misses of the first 20 minutes.

Then Pines took the lead, right on the half-hour mark, Shepherd simply took the ball away from Steve Blair at the edge of the penalty area and slipped it past goalkeeper

Johnson who was forced to come towards him.

Pines should have scored again a few moments later. Irvine went on a great run, evading a tackle by Dave Stokes, before squaring the ball to Shepherd. The Pines' goalscorer raised his foot for what should have been an easy goal, but the ball hit his foot and bounced off the side of it.

D'Sylva started Albion's best attacking move of the match by coming off the defence, spearing the ball diagonally to Bobby Nisbet and calling for it back in space. He then crossed to Alistair Denham who headed over the bar.

Just before half time Pines' striker Steve Cairns aimed a sly shot to the far post but Albion dived well to tap it out for a corner.

Bennett stopped a promising run by D'Sylva with an excellent tackle upon resumption and then Shepherd was hit by two Albion players, but referee Tony Beazleigh did nothing about it.

There was a lot of rough stuff going on, because Beazleigh had failed to put his foot down early in the game.

He flashed the yellow card for the first time in the 57th minute when Alex Wark fouled Cairns, but it was long overdue.

Bennett was sent off five minutes from the end after a run-in with D'Sylva. —

LAURIE SCHWAB

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MAKEDONIA v. JUVENTUS ON SATURDAY

If the clash between Juventus and Preston Makedonia in the second main round of the Dockerty Cup is half as eventful as the previous meeting of the two teams, the fans are in for a treat.

Two weeks ago, on a warm Friday night, Juventus and Makedonia were involved in a bizzare Ampol Cup game. During the clash, a player was sent off, another carried off, extra time was played and at the end of the confusion Ju-

ventus emerged the winner 6-5.

It was the highest scoring Ampol Cup game to date.

The first match was at Olympic Park, the home of Juventus, but for the return encounter, Juve travels to

Makedonia's base B. T. Connor Reserve.

Eric Lesbirel of Makedonia will not be playing. He was sent off for head-butting Bruno Sabidussi of Juventus in the first battle, and faces the VSF disciplinary com-

mittee (tonight) Wednesday. He is sure to be suspended.

Sabidussi meanwhile has recovered from concussion and facial injuries, and may play.

Juventus followed up its six goals against Preston with eight against Hawksburn last weekend. Strikers George Gillan, Bobby McGuinness and John Lucchessi are beginning to function as a unit, and Juventus has a good chance of recording another victory over Preston.

Because of the Ampol Cup final between Prahran Slavia and Green Gully Ajax on Saturday (March 24) the two club's Dockerty Cup games will be played on Thursday night, March 29.

Green Gully meets First Division side Western Suburbs, and Slavia takes on State League rival George Cross.

Games between George Cross and Slavia are traditionally hard-fought matches. With the incentive of a quarter final berth, both teams will go even harder.

What's more, George Cross is the current Dockerty Cup holder, and will not surrender its crown easily.

DOCKERTY CUP SECOND MAIN ROUND —

At B. T. Connor Reserve, Preston, Saturday, March 24: Frankston Pines v Polonia 1.15 pm.

Juventus v Preston Makedonia

At Middle Park, South Melbourne, Sunday March 25:

Frankston City v Sunshine City 1.15 pm

Box Hill v Hakoah St. Kilda

At Olympic Park, Thursday, March 29:

Green Gully Ajax v Western Suburbs 7 pm

Prahran Slavia v George Cross.

JUVENTUS 8 HAWKSURN 0

JUVE: Graham, Sabadini, Vaughan, Symington, Tarquinio, C. Smith, Sanipoli, C. Lucchessi, McGuinness, Gillan, J. Lucchessi.

HAWKSURN: Gulacsi, Lanic, Kacmar (Bonesok 58th), Bulic, Barna (Matorez 73rd), Hegedus, Bleskany, Polinkas, Biro, Lasanc, Laszlo.

Referee: Joe Slatts.

Juventus disposed of their Provisional League opponents with a flurry of second half goals after being lucky to survive a first half onslaught.

Hawksburn, playing with the wind in the first period, matched the State League side in every department and missed an open goal towards the end but crumbled when Claude Lucchessi headed home in the first minute of the second half after brother John's shot had hit the bar.

George Gillan netted the second five minutes later with a shot from outside the area which left the keeper stranded and from then on there was no stopping Juve.

Claude Lucchessi had a goal disallowed for offside before John Lucchessi notched his first collecting a clearance from a corner and hammering it in the net.

The same player scored again in the 74th minute when the ball fell nicely for him after a cross had been palmied out by the keeper.

With ten minutes to go Gillan made it five from a header and Hawksburn were just about ready to pack it in then.

But Juve scored three goals in the last four minutes

CROATIA OUTS MONARO IN NSW OPENING

NSW State League

Champion NSW State League team Croatia nearly frittered away a 3-0 half time lead just holding off a fighting Monaro to win 3-2 at Bankstown Soccer Centre on Sunday.

The first half, played in a torrential downpour, saw Croatia dominate play with Atti Abonyi, Bruno Cegali, and Maurice Sullivan outstanding in midfield.

In the 19th minute, Abonyi sent a free kick direct to Marian Kovacic, who sent in an unstoppable drive.

In the 28th minute Cegali set up Abonyi to score number two and two minutes later, Walter Savor added the third.

The second half saw Monaro fight back magnificently with midfielders Bob Noble and Chris O'Neill standing out.

Goals came in the 75th and 85th minutes from Velice Tranjanovski and Tony Morsello, and Monaro were pressing when time ran out.

A gift 77th minute goal by Peter Balafas gave Murrumbidgee a 1-0 victory over Manly-Warringah at Cromer Park.

The game looked destined to finish in a scoreless draw when Manly midfielder Bob Googhegan made a shocking attempt at a back pass.

The ball fell at the feet of Balafas, whose shot easily beat the stranded Manly keeper.

Googhegan's costly lapse was his only one of the match - he was one of Manly's best players and was responsible for most of his team's attacks. Manly did not deserve to lose the match.

They battled determinedly with their more skilled opponents all day and were relentless in defence.

Toongabbie staged a great fight back to snatch a point off Melita Eagles at Gabbie Stadium.

The home side was trailing 2-0 with about 25 minutes to go when Cliff Pointer started the comeback with a well-timed header from a Ricky Hormazabal kick.

Five minutes later speedy winger Steve Pollard blasted a shot towards the Melita goal which led to the equaliser.

The ball rebounded off the goalkeeper and landed at Pollard's feet and he calmly slotted the ball in the net.

In the first half Don Allan had given Melita a great start. His first goal came in the

BANKSTOWN 2 (Daley, Butler) GRANVILLE

1 (Link) at Garside Park.

CROATIA 3 (Kovacic Abonyi Savor)

MONARO 2 (Trajanovski Morsello) at Banks-

town, crowd: 1880.

TOONGABBIE 2 (Pollard Pointer) MELITA

2 (D. Allan 2) at Toongabbie. Crowd: 350.

MARRICKVILLE OLYMPIC 1 (Balafas)

MANLY 0 at Cromer Park. Crowd: 315.

ARNCLIFFE SCOTS v KURING-GAI at

Seymour Shaw Park and AVALA v YUGAL at

Bridge Reserve - Cancelled.

SECOND GRADE:

KURRINGAI 2 (Marchant 2) ARNCLIFFE SCOTS 2 (Birchall 21, Manly 3 (McVeigh, Britton, Gordon) MARRICKVILLE OLYMPIC 1 (Sersemic).

THIRD GRADE

KURRINGAI 5 (Spring 2, Pondakes 2, Martin) ARNCLIFFE SCOTS 1 (Sheard 1).

MANLY 11 (Diebold 3, Gardner 3, Vale 4, Dick) MARRICKVILLE OLYMPIC 0.

NEW FEDERATION: DIV 1: Nepean 2 b Sydney Olympic 1. Warringah 1 b U of NSW 0. Polonia 2 drew with St George 2. Belmore 1 b Blacktown 0. Revesby Workers 2 drew with North Sydney 2.

The goal came just seven minutes after Ray Farugia had had his shot cleared off the line by a Toongabbie defender. Allan picked up the rebound and knocked it past Bruce James.

His second goal came 15 minutes later after he headed in a Brian Parker cross.

Substitute George Butler was Bankstown's hero when he scored with his first kick after coming onto the field, to give his side a 2-1 victory over Granville at Garside Park on Saturday.

Porter, John Lee and Bill Angelopoulos gave Bankstown the edge in midfield and Daley was a constant threat in attack.

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RINGWOOD 3 MORELAND 0

Scorers: Greener 8th, Kupnic 54th, O'Callaghan 78th.

Ground: Croydon Park.

Crowd: 100 (double header).

Weather: warm.

Cautions: O'Callaghan (R).

Referee: Mike Gaut 7.

Rating:

POLYNIA: Dzialkowski 7, Wzola 6, Peter 7, Gavluk 7, Rachwalaki 6, Horfink 7, Koter 7, Czapnik 8 (Arietodemou 78th min), Laki 8 (Herman 75th min), Esposito 7, Pichner 6. Total: 78.

FOOTSCRAY JUST: Ciric 6, Hyne 5 (Stojcevi 43rd min), Talevski 7, Smorgrevski 6, Karic 7 injured 83rd min (no substitute), Acevski 6, Kazanovski 7, Scorsia 7 injured (Kovac 6, half time), Belic 7, Petrevski 6, Kanic 5. Total: 68.5.

English import Ian Greener will be Ringwood City's main weapon as it attempts to win promotion back to the State League.

Greener, a forward who is slight in build, has the ability to take goalscoring chances, but stands out more with his play making.

His vision and quality of distribution are first class, and is extremely difficult for defenders to mark.

Against Moreland, Greener scored Ringwood's opening goal, and made the passes that led to other two. It was Greener who made the gap between the two teams wider.

His first goal came after a bad mistake by full back Chris Kelly. Centre half Derek Appleyard passed to Kelly, who got in a tangle and tried to return the ball to Appleyard.

Greener pressured and intercepted Kelly's pass. He was through the Moreland defence, and never looked like being caught as he dribbled 30 yards to the penalty area, advanced past goalkeeper Mike Debeljuh, and tucked the ball away.

Ringwood's second came when Greener sent a diagonal ball to John O'Callaghan, unmarked on the left. The pass cut several Moreland players out of the game and left O'Callaghan with the task of finishing off the move.

The final goal was a header by Mike Kupnic, who is making a habit of scoring. He's scored in every Ringwood game this season.

Greener chipped to the far post, and Kupnic nodded the ball into the net despite a valiant attempt to save by Debeljuh.

Overall, Moreland didn't look capable of beating Ringwood. In the forward line Bobby Kent ran hard, and tried to create something, but was given little support.

Joe Katz started well enough in the midfield, but died out of the game, and in defence Moreland never looked solid.

Not promising for a team trying to consolidate in the First Division. KYLE PAT-

POLONIA 3 JUST 0

Scorers: Czapnik (P) 43rd, Koter 45th, Pichner 55th.

Ground: Croydon Park.

Crowd: 100 (double header).

Weather: warm with rain.

Cautions: none.

Referee: Jim Brennan 6.

Rating:

POLYNIA: Dzialkowski 7, Wzola 6, Peter 7, Gavluk 7, Rachwalaki 6, Horfink 7, Koter 7, Czapnik 8 (Arietodemou 78th min), Laki 8 (Herman 75th min), Esposito 7, Pichner 6. Total: 78.

FOOTSCRAY JUST: Ciric 6, Hyne 5 (Stojcevi 43rd min), Talevski 7, Smorgrevski 6, Karic 7 injured 83rd min (no substitute), Acevski 6, Kazanovski 7, Scorsia 7 injured (Kovac 6, half time), Belic 7, Petrevski 6, Kanic 5. Total: 68.5.

The youth and enthusiasm of JUST had Polonia in trouble in the first half, but a poor mistake by goalkeeper Ciric, who let a corner slip through his hands for Polonia's second goal seconds before half time, demoralised the Footscray team.

JUST had the better of the play in the first half, and kept possession well. The ball was played out of defence confidently, and it was only in the forward department, where JUST lacked direction and strength, that let the team down.

But Polonia took the lead against the run of play when Peter Czapnik volleyed a powerful shot after a cut back from Ron Horfink. Minutes later a corner from Koter gave Polonia a 2-0 lead which the Maribyrnong made the most of.

Polonia's greater experience and physical strength allowed the team to dominate the second half. Rain made the pitch slippery, and JUST's game broke down dramatically.

Polonia's best were Czapnik and Brendan Laki, well supported by Horfink and Jan Gavluk.

Footscray had Ivan Karic, Vlatko Belic and Luke Talevski playing well. All three are youngsters and have promising futures.

Another player, Pul Sinic, who is out injured, is reported to be the pick of the JUST youngsters.

Later in the season, several of these youngsters will be promoted to the club's Phillips League squad to train and get experience.

Belic played one PSL game last season against Brisbane City when Footscray was ravaged by injury.

English import Paul Hyne played for JUST, and will probably spend the rest of this season with the Second Division outfit. KYLE PAT-

BOX HILL 3 AUSTRIA 1

Scorers: Altheim (A) own goal 61st, Beller (A) 87th, Taylor (BH) 95th, K. Patterson (BH) 103rd min.

Ground: Wembley Park.

Crowd: 1000 (double header).

Weather: Sunny.

Cautions: none.

Referee: Les Hazlohurst 7.

Rating:

BOX HILL: Morgan 8, White 7, Corke 7, Tsakalidis 8, K. Patterson 7, G. McLeod 6 (Bradley 75th min), Taylor 8, I. McLeod 7, Valentine 7, Cupido 7 (S. Patterson 85th min), Ramoe 6. Total: 78.

KEILOR AUSTRIA: Dimitrijevic 8, Grbac 7, Gerick 7, Pejovic 8, Tralic 6, Altheim 7, Beller 8, Feretic 8, (Murray 102nd min), Stojanovic 6, Dorward 6, Milosic 6 (Rajic 105th min) Total: 77.

Box Hill made work for itself by conceding a late equalising goal, but showed its superiority with two goals in the extra time period.

The Hillmen were cruising to victory, but Austria won a free kick on the edge of the area after Angelo Feretic was floored by Craig White.

Box Hill goalkeeper Graham Morgan parried the shot, but there were several unmarked Austria players on the far post waiting to pounce on the loose ball.

Ray Beller was first in and slammed a shot past Morgan.

Box Hill took the lead when Gerry Altheim headed into his own net after being put under pressure by a hard cross by Michael Valentine. But the Hillmen should have scored several other goals.

Ian McLeod shot wide when faced by goalkeeper Dimitrijevic after a sweeping move, and Ray Taylor hit a drive narrowly past the far post after a good run.

Austria had a good chance to score after a mix up between Morgan and centre half George Tsakalidis. The ball ran loose with Morgan out of goal, but after a goal-mouth scramble, Morgan recovered to grab the ball.

Austria featured striker Glenn Dorward, a recent signing from Keilor City, and Feretic from Colingwood City. Veteran Guenter Gerick also played.

Austria will be strengthened if it can sign Jimmy Johnstone, Frank Campbell (Albion Rovers), John Webb (George Cross) and George Craig (Hakoah), all of whom played in Austria's reserve team in a practice game against Box Hill seconds.

In extra time, goals by Taylor and Kyle Patterson sealed a deserved win for Box

ΤΑ ΝΕΑ ΤΩΝ ΟΜΑΔΩΝ ΜΑΣ ΓΡΑΦΕΙ Ο ΜΑΝ. ΜΗΔ.

- ΔΑΔΕΑ τελειώνει το Χελλένικ Κόπ στο Πόρτ Μέλμπορν. Μόλις πάλι έγιναν επανεξιθέσεις το οποίο δεν τιμάνε κανένα. Οι πάλι φάρατοι δεν κατόρθωσαν να σταματήσουν το κακό. Οπωσδήποτε οι προαθλητές θα πρέπει να ντρέπονται γι αυτό το χάλι μας. Στο έτος οι διωργανοτές, θα πρέπει να σκεφθούν πο-λύ καλά ποιες ομάδες θα καλέσουν γι αυτό το θρινιό τουρνουά.
- Ο ΓΙΑΝΝΗΣ Νικολαΐδης μπήκε στην λίστα των μεταγραφών της ΤΖΑΕΤ. Όμως φαίνεται ο παίκτης θα καταλήξει στην παλαιά του ομάδα των ΗΡΑΚΛΗ.
- ΧΟΡΟ δίνει το Σάββατο 24 Μαρτίου, στην Δεσφί της ΕΛΛΑΣ Μέντα Πέρκ ο Σόνος-μύς φιλόδοξων της ΕΛΛΑΣ. Διότι το ελπί-τηριό σας τηλεφωνήσατε στο 4971815.
- ΚΙ ΑΛΛΗ μεγάλη επιτυχία του ΠΕΑΟΠ. Πρόκειται γι αυτό το νέο γήπεδο που ά-πέκτησε από το Δημαρχείο του Χάρσιν στο SMITH RESERVE που βρίσκεται στο GLENFERRIE RD. και GARDINER του ΗΑ-THORN. Το παλαιό γήπεδο του από Πέ-τερσον Ριτςβέρθ 36 το έχει κι "από" στην διαθεσιμότητα του από βοηθητικό. Στο έτος από το τέσσερο γήπεδο του 36 τοποθε-τήσεως φωτισμός που 36 κοστίζει ένα τών 10.000 δολαρίων.
- ΣΚΑΡΟΜΗ διοργανώνει ο σύλλογος φι-λόδοξων του ΜΕΤΑ στην "Αδελφότητα" στις 31/3 επ'εξουσία της συνάντησης με την τοπική ΕΛΛΑΣ. Γιότι πληροφορίες τηλεφωνήσατε στο 4654572
- ΕΑΡΑ της ΤΖΑΕΤ φέτος θα είναι το Ολυμπικό Πέρκ. Το ίδιο γήπεδο θα χρη-σιμοποιείται και ο ΑΔΕΛΦΑΡΟΣ ο οποίος προς το τέλος της σεζόν δεν ά-ποκλείεται να δώσει και δύο-τρία παιχνίδια στο δικό του γήπεδο στο Χέντεμπεργκ.
- ΕΝΑΣ από τους καλλούς ποίκτες της ομάδας του Νόρτ Μέλμπορν είναι και ο πα-ραμύσιος χαρακτήρας, ο Μίκι Λιν-νάρδης γιότι την "Αλφάδα". Ο Λιννάρδης στο πρόσωπο τουρνουά τών "6" 6" βγήκε πρώτος σκόρερ ση-μειώνοντας 7 γκολ.
- ΣΕ ΦΙΛΙΚΗ συνάντηση ο ΠΕΑΟΠ νίκησε την τοπική ομάδα του Πόρτ Μέλμπορν με 4-0. Το τέρας σημείωσαν οι Βασίλης Καμπύ-λης 2, και Λούκας Χατζηγεωργίου 1.
- ΣΤΗΝ ίδια διοργάνωση με την Αρσέλη επι-τυχία νίκη 3 - 0 επί της αντίστοιχης ομάδας της Μουρμπάνας. Έπαιξε η ΜΟΥΡΜΑΝΙΑ με το 3-0. 1-1. Η διοργάνωση του Πέλαου εχάρη-σε και τις τρεις ομάδες "W. ΜΕΛΜΠΟΥΡΝ", "C. C. C." και ΜΟΥΡΜΑΝΙΑ που έδωσαν το παρόν στην διοργάνωση.
- ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΗΡΙΑ σπεύδουν η στήλη στην διοργα-νίστρια του τουρνουά τών "6" ομάδα του ΕΡΜΕ καὶ τις ομάδες που έδωσαν το παρόν, ΜΑΔΕΡΝ, ΟΚΛΑ, ΔΥΝΑΜΟ, ΚΑΛΙΝΤΑ και ΚΡΑΤΕΡΟ.
- ΟΠΩΣ πάλι είναι ο πρώην διευθυντής και έ-πει το τόνον του ΜΕΤΑ, κ. Στρίβ Γουλλιάμς, ένθρητος και τοκοποιοί της έργασιας ο ποδοσφαιριστής "Ανδρέας Μπουλίας. Συχα-ρήτρια κέρσε Γουλλιάμς.
- ΜΕΝ ξεχάστε το μπρόνκελ του 3-0 ο σύλλογος φιλόδοξων του ΜΕΤΑ στις 24/3 και 3-0. Στην ελληνική έκκληση του ΠΕ-ΕΤΟΝ. Γιότι πληροφορίες τηλεφωνήσατε στο 4654572 ή στο 4801252.
- ΕΚΑΔΕ του ΟΚΛΑ γιότι το Νόρτ Μέλμπορν Κόπ από την Μελβόρνια με 8 - 1. Το μοναδικό έλληνα γκολ σημείωσε ο Α. Χοντομάτσας με πένελο.
- Η Ν. ΕΛΛΑΣ έλασε από την ΤΖ. ΚΡΟΣ με 4-1. Ο Λετάρδης ήταν ο σκόρερ από την ομάδα του Τέκν Εβγόνου.
- ΓΙΑ το ίδιο κέπ ο ΠΑΝΕΛΛΗΝΙΟΣ έπαιξε με το Νόρτ ΤΖΗΛΟΚ με 4-2 από πένελο, ο κα-νικός δύν έληξε έσπαλος 1-1.
- Ο ΕΡΜΕ γιότι το Πρσέζιοναλ κέπ έπαιξε με 4-1. Το από την ομάδα του ΜΕΑΤΟΝ με 4-1.
- ΤΑ ΤΖΟΥΝΙΟΡ της Ν. ΕΛΛΑΣ U14 σε φιλική συνέντευξη νίκησαν το Νεναγάντινκ με 3-0.
- ΕΤΗΝ κ. Αθανασίου 424702 να τηλεφωνήσουν σε κατέλας έλουν να δώσουν με την γυναικεία ομάδα της ΕΛΛΑΣ.
- ΚΑΘΕ ΜΕΡΑ γίνεται και καλύτερος ο ταλαν-τούχος γκολέπες του ΠΕΑΟΠ Πόρτ Μέλ-μπορν και οι συμπαίκτες του τόν έκτιστον γιότι την σθεδερνιό το.
- ΕΝΑΣ έδωκε παίκτης που διακρίνει στην ομα-δα του είναι ο νεαρός Πίτερ Τσιτρίλδης του ΟΚΛΑ. Μπρόβο του.

— ΜΑΝ. ΜΗΔ.

Ferenc Puskas axed by AEK

Greek club AEK Athens has given its coach Ferenc Puskas a three-month "leave of absence."

This is interpreted to mean that he is finished with the club. AEK's management was apparently unhappy with the form the team showed in losing to Aris recently, and blamed Puska-

PHILIPS LEAGUE ACTION

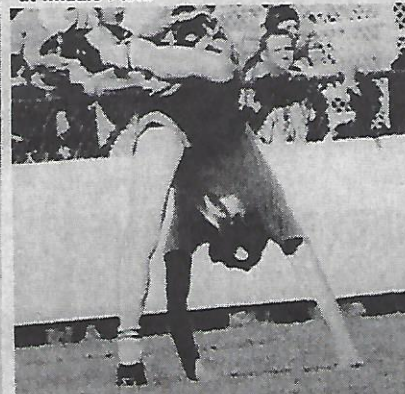
with SAM BELFONTE



Heidelberg's star midfielder Jimmy Rooney goes crashing to the ground in a clash with Footscray's Joe Palinkas.



Sydney Olympic's Paul Cotton (front) tangles with Tony Turner of South Melbourne at Middle Park.



South Melbourne's Duncan Cummings does a curious hand-stand during the match against Olympic.

Forest in Europe thanks to Birtles

LONDON, — Nottingham Forest made sure of a place in European soccer next season with a deserved and successful defence of the English Football League Cup here.

Forest, which thus became the first club to win the competition two years in succession, defeated Southampton 3-2 and earned itself European Football Union (UEFA) Cup action next season at the very least.

It still has a great chance of winning this year's European Cup, with a 4-1 first leg quarter-final lead to take to Grasshoppers or Zurich for the return clash.

Manager Brian Clough stressed: "We are now guaranteed European football and



Ballet at Wembley during the League Cup final when Phil Bowyer (left) of Southampton and Frank Clark of Notts Forest go for the ball.

want to be in one of the three tournaments every year."

Should Forest claim the major trophy, Southampton can take the UEFA Cup place.

Clough can thank "Boy Wonder" Gary Birtles for his continuing success story.

Birtles was playing in non-league soccer last season but the 2,000 sterling (3,600 Austl) bargain buy scored two second half goals in reply to David Peach's surprise early effort for Southampton.

Birtles also had two attempts disallowed for offside.

The younger striker said: "Three for the day would have been just great. I thought my second 'offside' goal was a good one."

Tony Woodcock added a third for Forest eight minutes from the end and Mick Holmes managed a last gasp second goal for Southampton.

Assistant manager Peter Taylor said the team needed

no motivation following the midweek remarks of Alan Ball, Southampton captain and England's 1966 World Cup hero.

Ball said Forest was too negative in its games but Taylor replied: "Our middle name is positive. We try to be positive in every way and the win was a reward for 45 minutes' positive football in the second half."

"Brian and I are guilty of many things, but we are not negative."

Junior soccer is going to the pack

A view from the junior ranks
BY LEIF JENSEN



Having watched a lot of junior soccer over the past three weekends, I am alarmed to see how low the standard of our young players has become.

The standard is definitely on the decline, skills are poor indeed, and team play is the worst I have seen for years.

This is of course not the kid's fault. It can only be put down to bad coaching or no coaching at all.

I believe that being a junior coach is a very responsible position, as you actually become a teacher of young boys, and as we all know, most teaching jobs require years of training. Unfortunately this is not the case with junior soccer or, for that matter, with most other junior sports.

I also believe that it is about time that clubs, the Soccer Federation and the Coaching Association realized

this and what is more important, did something about it.

First, let us look at the system we have been using for the past 20 years or more.

To call it a system is really not correct, because it is in actual fact the lack of system that's been the problem in the past, and perhaps still the problem today.

Most clubs will spend a fortune (if they have it) on their so-called first team, they will search high and low to find what is called a super coach, they then reject their young players and look overseas for some old player, who

worms in both legs (my belief is that if these players were any good they would stay where they were).

On the other hand, when it comes to this club's junior teams, any old father who can be bothered can be in charge of a team and be called a coach.

The kids are usually asked for a joining fee and out of this money the people in charge have to buy shirts, balls and if they are lucky some markers to be used for coaching.

The answer, if you dare to

financial help, is usually: "You must be joking, we have enough problems of our own."

Now, I am not knocking the "old dad" coach for wanting to do it. I do think it is a bit rude to expect this man, who might not know a soccer ball from a tennis ball, to produce great little soccer players.

So how can we help these "father coaches?"

I would suggest to all junior secretaries to get in touch with your local Coaching Association and ask if

Burns Cup replay Saturday

The Tommy Burns Cup quarter-final game between Doncaster Rovers and Falkner, which was abandoned after a crowd disturbance, will be replayed on Saturday.

The first match was at Falkner's Jukes Road ground, but the replay will be at Rovers Donvale Reserve.

The winner of the Doncaster/Falkner game will meet Ringwood City in the semi-finals. The other semi final is between Western Suburbs and Richmond.

Doncaster kept up its winning form by taking out the JnB Trophy competition at Esther Park, Mooroolbark.

Rovers downed Croydron reserves 4-1 in the final with goals from

Mal Anselma (2), Keith Humbla and Robert Forsyth.

Dave Reid replied for Croydron, whose best players were first teamers Dave Brogan and goal-keeper Reg Morton.

Anselma and Alan Copeland were Doncaster's best.

Doncaster's third team kicked off the season with a 2-1 win over Boronia's reserves. Brian Burton and Pearson scored the goals.

Rovers' reserves beat Boronia firsts 2-0 with goals by Gow and Sachindia.

Moreland wins challenge

Moreland (Vic.) beat the Epping Australian Rules club in their half-soccer, half-"footy" game at the weekend. Moreland won 6-1 in the 45 minutes of soccer and drew 5-5 at Aussie Rules.

Promoter for VSF

Close co-operation and more direct communication between the Victorian Soccer Federation and the media is a must, said Peter Collins, VSF publicity manager, while addressing a monthly general meeting of the Soccer Press Association at the Vineyard Restaurant, St. Kilda.

There is no doubt, said Mr Collins, that the withdrawal of Rothmans' sponsorship was a big disappointment but the VSF is on the way to announcing a new promoter.

The well-attended meeting agreed to organize at the end of the 1979 season the Bill Fleming Medal presentation night. The VSF will be advised of a panel of soccer writers with voting rights.

— STEPHEN KALUS.

available, who will come to your club on some training nights, simply to show these men the correct way of working with juniors, so that their boys can learn and benefit from the coaching sessions.

I realise that a lot of men don't have the time to go on coaching courses and some may not even want to go, but they surely would not knock back the opportunity to receive a little help from a qualified person if it is going to help their boys play better soccer, and it must also make life a little easier.

More about this subject next week. If you would like to make a comment on this write to me: L. G. Jensen 13 Magill Ave, Mulgrave 3170.

PS: Peninsula under 15 regional team requires players. Ring coach J. Vis

Philips League Club Directory

ADELAIDE CITY

G.P.O. BOX 1262L, ADELAIDE, 5001 (08) 332 5614

SECRETARY: G. Ursini (08) 31 0778

COACH: R. Rasic

GROUND: Olympic Sports Field, Kensington (08) 31 1844.

COLOURS: Black & White.



This week's Match: v **A.P.I.A. LEICHHARDT** at Hindmarsh Stadium (Adelaide) Sunday 2.30 pm.

BRISBANE LIONS

15 DELPHINUS ST., INALA, QLD. 4077

SECRETARY: S. Boegheim (07) 277 1733

COACH: A. Spearritt.

GROUND: Perry Park, Abbotsford Rd., Mayne. (07) 52 5328.

COLOURS: All Orange with Blue Stripe.



This week's Match: v **ST GEORGE** at Perry Park (Brisbane) Sunday 3 pm.

BRISBANE CITY

P. O. Box 265 Broadway, Brisbane 4001
Club phone: 356 8834

SECRETARY: G. Canale bus (07) 52 4711.

COACH: N. Saffich.

GROUND: Perry Park, Abbotsford Rd., Mayne.

SPONSOR: MONTROSE WINES



This week's Match: v **NEWCASTLE KB** at International Sports Centre (Newcastle) Sunday 2.30 pm.

CANBERRA CITY

P.O. Box 910, Canberra City 2600

SECRETARY: David Dillon 48 8917 (W) 54 1787 (L)

COACH: V. Fernandez

GROUND: National Athletic Stadium, Bruce

SPONSOR:



This week's Match: v **FOOTSCRAY** at National Athletic Stadium (Canberra) Sunday 2.30 pm.

HEIDELBERG UNITED

P.O. BOX 8, COLLINGWOOD, 3066

SECRETARY: A. Loustas 419 2588.

COACH: J. Maragitis.

GROUND: Olympic Park, Swan St., Melb. (03) 42 0642.

COLOURS: Black & Gold.

* GIRLS WHO WISH TO TAKE PART IN MISS ALEXANDER QUEST SHOULD CONTACT THE SECRETARY.



This week's Match: v **SOUTH MELBOURNE** at Olympic Park (No 2 Ground) (Melbourne) Sunday 3 pm.

FOOTSCRAY

P.O. BOX 122, ST KILDA SOUTH, 3182

SECRETARY: H. Iser bus (03) 391 3231

COACH: C. Cirkovic

GROUND: Olympic Park, Swan St, Melb (03) 42 0642

COLOURS: Blue White Red.

SPONSOR:



This week's Match: v **CANBERRA CITY** at National Athletic Stadium (Canberra) Sunday 2.30 pm.

NEWCASTLE KB UNITED

4 NORTHWOOD ST., ADAMSTOWN HEIGHTS, N.S.W., 2289

SECRETARY: P. Trisley, Bus. (049) 24930 (049) 26 2433

COACH: A. Vest

GROUND: International Sports Centre, Turton Rd., New Lambton. Ph (049) 52 1224

SPONSOR: Tooth & Co., Brewers of KB Beer



This week's Match: v **BRISBANE CITY** at International Sports Centre (Newcastle) Sunday 2.30 pm.

MARCONI

MARCONI ROAD, BOSSLEY PARK, N.S.W. 2176

SECRETARY: L. Sartoretto (02) 604 5222.

COACH: L. Scheinflug.

GROUND: Marconi Oval, Marconi Rd., Bossley Park.



This week's Match: v **SYDNEY CITY** at Wentworth Park (Sydney) Sunday 3 pm.

SOUTH MELBOURNE

P.O. BOX 64, ST. KILDA WEST, VIC., 3182

SECRETARY: N. Sagiakos, Bus (03) 211 1247

MANAGER: D. MacLaren

GROUND: Middle Park, Aughtie Drive, Middle Park

COLOURS: Blue & White



This week's Match: v **HEIDELBERG UNITED** at Olympic Park No 2 Ground (Melbourne) Sunday 3 pm.

ST. GEORGE

84 VICTORIAN AVENUE, MORTDALE, N.S.W.

GENERAL MANAGER: L. Bordacs (02) 269 2745.

COACH: J. Gelei.

GROUND: St George Stadium, Rockdale

COLOURS: White, Red & Green.



This week's Match: v **BRISBANE LIONS** at Perry Park (Brisbane) Sunday 3 pm.

WEST ADELAIDE

G.P.O. BOX 1130, ADELAIDE S.A., 5001

SECRETARY: D. A. Carapetis, Bus. (08) 227 4311.

COACH: T. Forde.

GROUND: Hindmarsh Stadium, Manton St., Hindmarsh.



This week's Match: v **SYDNEY OLYMPIC** at St George Stadium (Sydney) Sunday 3 pm.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC

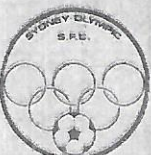
BOX A181 SYDNEY SOUTH, N.S.W., 2000

SECRETARY: N. Smilas (Bus) (02) 72 0661.

COACH: J. Marston.

GROUND: Pratton Park, Ashfield.

SPONSOR: epatra



This week's Match: v **WEST ADELAIDE** at St George Stadium (Sydney) Sunday 3 pm.

A.P.I.A. LEICHHARDT

38-42 FRAZER ST., LEICHHARDT 4040.

SECRETARY: H. Ambrose (02) 516 1688

COACH: J. Adam.

GROUND: Wentworth Park, Glebe. Phone (02) 660 7431.

COLOURS: Burgundy & Sky Blue.



This week's Match: v **ADELAIDE CITY** at Hindmarsh Stadium (Adelaide) Sunday 2.30 pm

SYDNEY CITY

61 HALL ST., BONDI, NSW.

SECRETARY: H. K. Lakmaker (02) 30 3344 (Mornings).

663 4576 (Afternoons).

COACH: G. Chaldi.

GROUND: Wentworth Park Glebe, NSW. Phone (02) 660 7431.

SPONSOR: Presto Smallgoods and City Ford.



This week's Match: v **MARCONI** at Wentworth Park